

**Fairfield not happy with new resident**  
Mayor writes to Corrections Dept. asking  
to have parolee Robert Noel moved.

page 14

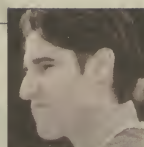
**New sex club is open**  
333 Linden promotes safe sex,  
caters to younger crowd.

page 13



**Village people**  
Montreal's gay village  
in 'Mambo Italiano.'

see Arts section



# BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 33 • No. 38 • 18 September 2003

Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

## Gov. Davis pressed to sign clean needle bill

by Matthew S. Bajko

**A**IDS activists are lobbying Governor Gray Davis to sign into law a major bill that will impact how California addresses its AIDS epidemic.

The bill, SB774, is authored by state Senator John Vasconcellos (D-Santa Clara) and would allow a licensed pharmacist to sell hypodermic needles or syringes to a person without a prescription under specified conditions. The harm reduction measure, which was vetoed by Davis last year, is an attempt to get dirty needles off the streets and improve the health of intravenous drug users. The bill passed out of the Legislature on September 9.

Davis, who is fighting to keep his job as governor, has yet to signal if he will sign or veto the bill. Aides to the governor did not return calls seeking comment Tuesday.

He has until October 17 to decide. His signing of the bill could shore up his support from progressives in his party as he tries to defeat the recall against him. Yet if Davis vetoes the bill, he could steal some of the thunder from those seeking to remove him from office.

As the bill moved through the state Legislature, its supporters met with Davis's staff to discuss amending the measure to improve its chance of being signed by the governor. In reintroducing the bill this year, its authors already addressed several key concerns Davis had raised for vetoing the legislation, such as increasing the penalties for improperly disposing of dirty needles.

"We have no indication from the governor of what he might do," said Dana Van Gorder, the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's director of local and state affairs. "There have been conversations with his staff over the last few months about the bill. We offered to consider any amendments he might want to the bill to make it easier for him to sign it. There was not a request for any amendments, and we don't know what to take that to mean."

Groups in support of the measure are waging an intense letter writing campaign encouraging Davis to sign the bill. In an e-mail to members of the Lambda Letters Project, Boyce Hinman wrote that the organization needs to maximize the positive mail being sent to the governor, warning it is not inconceivable that Davis once again plans to veto the needle exchange bill.

"So we need to absolutely flood his office with e-mails supporting SB774."

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## Cheers for the 'La Femme'

Larry Camuso, of San Jose, sits in his lavender 1956 Dodge La Femme, which won Best of Show at the 20th annual Freewheelers Car Club's car show Sunday, September 14 in Coltingwood Park in the Castro. Dodge made only 300 of the cars and they came in special colors and upholstery and included matching raincoat, hat, and umbrella, plus color coordinated makeup. The car show raised money for the AIDS Emergency Fund.

## Terrorist alert could spell trouble for transgenders

by Zak Szymanski

**A** small news item that had previously floated below the radar was all the buzz among transgender and other LGBT-related groups last week: The Department of Homeland Security had reportedly issued a press release to American security personnel that male terrorists may try to disguise themselves in women's clothing.

For transgenders, transsexuals, and cross-dressers who were born male but prefer to present in female identities, such an alert caused alarm; many male-to-female transgenders do not easily "pass" as women, and others, such as crossdressers and genderqueers, have little desire to occupy a full-time passable female identity.

Considering the nature of the alert, and the diversity of the community, advocates from the National Transgender Advocacy Coalition felt compelled to issue a warning to all gender variant people who choose to travel and/or frequent areas where their appearance may be seen as "suspicious."

NTAC's cautionary alert was not meant to induce panic, said NTAC founder and chair Vanessa Edwards Foster, but to provide information about how to handle such scrutiny should it arise. Many transgenders are reluctant to discuss their transgender status, said Foster, but evasiveness and defensiveness could lead to unnecessary questioning and even detainment.

"I think the DHS was simply responding to the intelligence they gathered, and responding appropriately, I might add," said Foster, who first heard the particular warning on the news last month but took action when she received the DHS statement after it was released on September 4. "But how this alert will be applied remains unclear, and transgender people should be prepared."

The full DHS release appeared under the

headline, "No Change in Threat Level" and was entitled, "Maintaining Awareness Regarding Al-Qaeda's Potential Threats to the Homeland." It was directed to all federal departments and agencies, homeland security advisers, first responders, and information sharing and analysis centers.

The actual gender-specific wording of the DHS alert was brief, and appeared alongside other factors to consider when determining terrorist threats.

"Terrorists will employ novel methods to artfully conceal suicide devices. Male bombers may dress as females in order to discourage scrutiny," the DHS release stated, then added that bombs may also be disguised in shoes, as demonstrated by terrorist suspect Richard Reid whose efforts were thwarted during a transcontinental flight in 2001. Reid later pleaded guilty to several charges and was sentenced to life in prison.

But the fact that personnel from DHS and the Transportation Security Administration were unf

page 11 ►

## EQCA endorses Bustamante, stands firm against recall

by Cynthia Laird

**W**ith the fate of the October 7 gubernatorial recall election up in the air following a federal court's decision Monday, September 15 to delay the vote, embattled

Governor Gray Davis and the replacement candidates continue to campaign and receive endorsements. This week the political action committee of Equality California announced it was endorsing Lieutenant Governor Cruz Bustamante, the most prominent Democrat among the 135 replacement candidates.

EQCA, the largest statewide LGBT lobbying group, said in a news release that while it is still firmly against the recall, Bustamante had received the endorsement as the best candidate in the event that Davis is recalled.

"Equality California is first and foremost

page 19 ►



Cruz Bustamante



## A dog's (and guardian's) day

Kathy Buckley and her dog, Clydey, decked out in matching hair color and scarf, were one of three sets of finalists in the human-dog leashes-like contest at the eighth annual Doggone Fun Run Sunday, September 14 in Golden Gate Park. The benefit raised funds for co-sponsors Pets Are Wonderful Support and Pets Unlimited; both groups are expected to split the approximately \$65,000 that was raised by 500 runners and walkers.

Rick Gerhart

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# Gay travel show gives SF a star turn

by Matthew S. Bajko

In *QGo*, a gay reality travel show based in San Francisco, the dreams of gay boys and girls do come true.

Well, dreams of seeing the country's gay mecca for a weekend, that is.

In what the show's producers describe as MTV's *Real World* meets queer travelogue, lucky winners get to be flown to San Francisco, put up in the Hotel Triton for free and taken around town by three locals who play host.

The mixture of sightseeing, partying, and video diary entries is then spliced together into a half-hour program the producers hope will air on a gay television channel either in Canada or here in the U.S. The program held auditions in August to select the show's hosts and this past weekend brought the first two guests to town.

"Our target audience is international and domestic gay travelers," said Roland Joseph Torres, a co-producer of the show and founder of Red Soap Box Visual Media. "No one has produced a queer travelogue about San Francisco."

Torres and co-producer Sammy Rodriguez decided on three people to co-host the show: Aleada Minton, aka "daddy," a 32-year-old queer lesbian actor and playwright who is African American, Caucasian, and Native American; Isaac Dolido, a 21-year-old gay Filipino still in college; and Justin Garrett, a 34-year-old gay actor who is white. Of the three, only Garrett has a partner, Jonathan Patrizio, of seven years.

"We are like Neapolitan ice cream," joked Minton.

The three strangers have been sent out on assignments over the last two weeks to tape spots and



*QGo* host Aleada Minton on location at the historical society.

become comfortable performing in front of the cameras. They visited the Harvey Milk exhibit at the historical society and made appearances as go-go dancers at Metropolis.

"It is reality TV meets the Travel Channel with a San Francisco producer behind the camera," Dolido explains in the first episode, which cast and crew watched for the first time last week.

Torres said he intends to highlight not just the gay social scene but also the political side and historical moments of San Francisco's gay community.

"The show is not just come to San Francisco and party," he said.

Torres said he needs to complete the show's first episode by October 1, in order to show it to the cable channels. He is currently in negotiations with Canada's Pridevision and the Palm Springs-based Triangle Television Network, a fledgling LGBT cable channel that has been trying to get on the air for the last eight years, so far to no success.

Both networks have had problems this year. Pridevision experienced financial problems and

scaled back its planned expansion this fall into the United States. In June, TTN and Time Warner announced the two companies had forged a 10-year, multi-city deal to begin airing the station, but did not disclose which cities or a date for its debut.

According to a message posted September 8 on the gay network's Web site, Time Warner has delayed its start-up date. While the company is pushing for a December 31 launch, it now says the soonest it will debut will be after January 2004.

Torres said he is undeterred and is moving ahead with *QGo* despite the fact there is no clear date as to when the show may air. "Everyone knows the time is right for this program," he said. "It just made sense to us to do it."

As the show brings more guests to town, the producers are looking for local businesses to become marketing partners. Along with the Triton, the program has teamed with San Francisco's gay-owned music company Cellular Records, Gus Presents, and the promoters of Fresh at Ruby Skye.

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

# LGBT legislation continues to advance

by Zak Szymanski

Just when it looked as though California had already had the most productive LGBT legislative session in history, two additional LGBT bills made remarkable progress within the last week, and LGBT people were included in two other bills that passed through the Legislature.

"It's been an amazing year," said Geoff Kors, executive director of Equality California, who credited a variety of factors for the unprecedented success. "It has to do with strategically thinking about the legislation we could get passed, building a coalition of all the groups in our community, and having a seat at the table, with the new LGBT caucus, and the fact that 5 percent of the state Assembly are members of the LGBT community."

AB1250, by openly gay Assemblyman John Laird (D-Santa Cruz) was signed by Governor Gray Davis on September 11. The bill, in an effort to reduce hate crimes, allows school districts to offer intolerance and hatred prevention training to state teachers. It adds the category to the training permitted under the Instructional Time and Staff Development Reform Program for school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools that have applied for, and received, the ITS-DRP grant.

"There are so many challenges facing our youth without the fear of violence creating additional

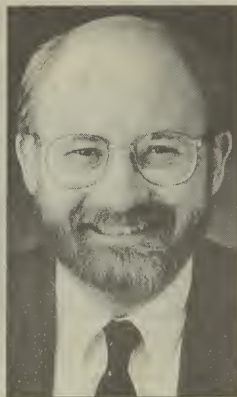
tension at school," Davis said of his decision to sign the bill. "This bill gives each school district, county office of education, and charter school a way to reduce school violence and create a safe environment for its students."

Additionally, AB17, the state version of San Francisco's landmark equal benefits ordinance, made it out of the last meeting of the Senate Appropriations Committee and passed through the Legislature. Many had speculated that the bill, by out lesbian Assemblywoman Christine Kehoe (D-San Diego), would remain stalled, but a last-minute push, including a call for public action, helped to get the bill onto the floor.

Specifically, AB17 prohibits state agencies from contracting with businesses that discriminate in employment benefits. If a contracting company offers health benefits to spouses, for instance, it must also offer those benefits to domestic partners.

AB17 joins AB205 — the comprehensive Domestic Partner Rights and Responsibilities Act by out lesbian Assemblywoman Jackie Goldberg (D-Los Angeles) — at a place on Davis's desk; the governor has until October 12 to sign both of them.

Davis has pledged to sign AB205, which expands the rights and responsibilities provided to registered domestic partners to include nearly all the state legal rights, duties, benefits, and responsibilities that are available to married couples. Kors said Davis



Assemblyman John Laird

may sign AB205 within the week.

Although Davis has not yet indicated his position on AB17, there is a general sense of optimism that he will sign it.

"I think it's within his philosophy that government should lead by example" said Kors, who added that state contractors enjoy a privilege, not a right, which makes AB17 not a mandate but a condition of a contract.

In addition to LGBT specific bills, advocates were able to lobby for LGBT inclusion in the final draft of SB2, the Health Insurance Act of 2003 by state Senator John Burton (D-San Francisco), as well as SB578, by state Senator Richard Alarcon (D-Sun Valley).

SB2 requires that companies

with more than 200 employees offer health coverage to dependents, which now includes domestic partners. SB578 prohibits state contractors from doing business with sweatshops and also requires contractors to have nondiscrimination policies, which now includes "gender identity" among its nondiscrimination protections. Both bills passed the Legislature and are awaiting action by Davis.

Earlier this session, Davis signed AB 196, openly gay Assemblyman Mark Leno's (D-San Francisco) historic gender nondiscrimination bill, which prohibits discrimination in employment and housing on the basis of gender stereotypes. And on September 8, Davis signed AB458, by Assemblywoman Judy Chu (D-Monterey Park), which prohibits discrimination and harassment against foster children and caregivers on the basis of actual or perceived race, ethnicity, ancestry, national origin, color, religion,

sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, mental or physical disability, or HIV status.

Other LGBT related bills that await Davis's signature include AB879, by Assemblyman Paul Koretz (D-West Hollywood), which requires the Office of AIDS to convene a task force to develop guidelines for the use of post-exposure prophylaxis in the general population; Laird's AB1082, which allows the Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) to recognize local agency definitions of "domestic partner" when providing health benefits; SB71, by out lesbian state Senator Sheila Kuehl (D-Santa Monica), which provides that school HIV/AIDS prevention may not promote bias against any person on the basis of any category protected in the Education Code; and SB85, by Senator Tom Torlakson (D-Antioch), which allows California counties to grant death benefits and retirement allowances to spouses or domestic partners. ▼



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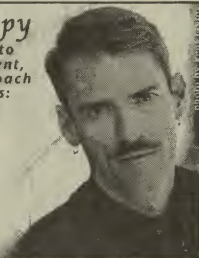
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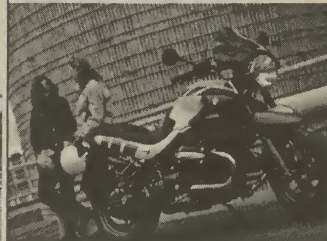
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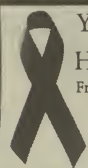

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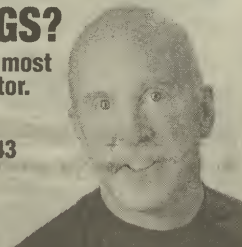
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## 10 years of service



Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida marked a decade of service to members of the Latino/a LGBT community with an awards reception Sunday, September 14 at the Blue Room Gallery in the Mission. Staff, supporters, and awardees were honored, including, from left: Cherrie Moraga, Barbara García, Prado Gomez, Jaime Cortez, Erich Arguello, Carlos Jimenez, Israel Nieves-Rivera, Eduardo Morales, John Manez, Michael Dominguez, and Greg Rojas. PCPV is a sex-positive, neighborhood-based, multigender agency that provides a variety of programs for clients.

## Voters still need to register by deadlines

by Zak Szymanski

**W**ant to make sense of how the recent and impending court rulings affect voter registration and absentee balloting for the recall? Join the club. At press time, not even state officials were clear on the implications of a delayed recall election, but the *Bay Area Reporter* has collected available information to help ensure that voters get to the polls — whenever that may be.

## Register by Monday

Because the recent decision to delay the recall likely will soon be heard by a full panel of the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, it is unclear whether the special election will take place on October 7; however, elections departments statewide are behaving as if it will.

San Francisco Elections Director John Arntz told the *B.A.R.* on Monday, September 15 that as far as he's concerned, the recall is on for now.

"In the ruling today [Monday],

the court actually imposed a seven-day stay on its ruling so there is no effect on registration at this point," Arntz said.

He added that as far as elections officials are concerned, the recall is planned for October 7 "unless a full panel of the Ninth Circuit or the U.S. Supreme Court deems otherwise."

"There's still a lot up in the air but as far as deadlines are concerned, everything stays the same," said Arntz, which means new voters — as well voters who have recently moved or plan to move soon — need to register by this Monday, September 22. Voter registration forms must be completed, signed, and mailed by this date.

To be eligible to register to vote, a person must be a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age by October 7, and not in prison or on parole for the conviction of a felony.

Voter registration forms should be available at various public locations, including city halls, post offices, and libraries. Forms are also available online at

www.myvotecounts.org, to be downloaded and filled out. Once completed, forms can be dropped off at elections offices; in Alameda County, the location is in the basement of the courthouse at 1225 Fallon Street in Oakland, and in San Francisco, the location is the basement of City Hall. Forms can also be mailed in; a postmark by September 22 is considered valid.

## Sept. 30 deadline

Any registered voter may vote by absentee ballot.

An application for absentee voting can be found on the sample ballot mailed to each voter, or interested absentee voters can apply in writing to their county elections officials. The application or letter must contain 1) the voter's name and residence address as stated on the voter registration card; 2) the address to which the absentee ballot should be sent (if different than the registered address); 3) the name and date of the election in which the voter would like to vote

next page ►



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## COMMUNITY NEWS

# Flu shots to benefit AIDS, breast cancer nonprofits

by Zak Szymanski

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has stated that many individuals with weakened immune systems – including the elderly, and those with heart or lung disease, diabetes, or HIV/AIDS – may benefit from an annual flu vaccination. Healthcare workers and others who are in close contact with those at high risk should also be vaccinated, according to the CDC.

Although people should check with their doctors before getting a flu shot, those who have been given the go-ahead, as well as

those who usually opt for the vaccination, should consider receiving their inoculations at Cliff's Variety store on Saturday, September 27, Wednesday, October 8, or Saturday, November 8.

On these dates, from noon until 3 p.m., Test-Med Health Services – one of the oldest and largest providers of flu vaccinations – will provide public vaccinations for the usual fee of \$20. Yet in a new collaboration with local community agencies, Test-Med will donate \$2 from every shot to the AIDS Emergency Fund and Breast Cancer Emergency Fund, two charities that provide financial assistance to people living with

disabling illnesses.

"As long as people are going to be vaccinated, it's great that they can do it and give to a good cause at the same time," said Phil Siegel, AEF board member.

Other dates for the charitable vaccinations, to be held at the LGBT Community Center, will be announced for the fall.

Companies, civic organizations, and other large groups are also encouraged to take advantage of Test-Med's offer to help AEF and BCEF; any organization or group that does vaccinations can call (415) 693-0493 to ensure that their flu shots benefit important community charities. ▼

## Voters

◀ previous page

absentee; and 4) the date and the voter's signature.

Once processed, an absentee ballot will be sent to the voter. After voting, the ballot should be inserted in the envelope provided and mailed. It can also be returned in person, or dropped off by an authorized legally allowable third party to a polling place or elections office by election day.

One important thing to note for LGBT voters: although the law allows any person residing in your household to return an absentee ballot on your behalf (such as your domestic partner), the current sample ballot envelopes may neglect to mention that people other than relatives may do so. (A ballot envelope for Alameda

County voters did not explicitly state that any person in the household may return the ballot.)

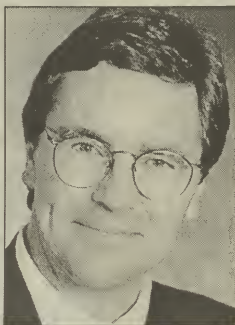
Returned absentee ballots must be received by the county elections office by the time polls close at 8 p.m. on election day.

The deadline to request an absentee ballot is Tuesday, September 30.

### Learn more

In preparation for the recall, California Secretary of State Kevin Shelley has launched a comprehensive Web site with voter information and forms available in seven different languages; visit [www.myvotecounts.org](http://www.myvotecounts.org) for more information.

Additionally, the San Francisco Department of Elections is hosting an open house today (Thursday, September 18), from 3:30-5:30 p.m. in room 48 (in the base-



Secretary of State Kevin Shelley

ment) of City Hall; the open house will cover a variety of topics, including the information found in the recall election's sample ballot. ▼

## HIV prevention advocates honored



Jack Phibben/Gladnet

The Stop AIDS Project honored several health and community officials Monday, September 15, at its eighth annual HIV Prevention Awards benefit at Ruby Skye in San Francisco. From left, awardees Tony Nguyen, Lenny Broberg, Dan Wohlfeiler, and Tracey Packer join Darlene Weide, executive director. Agency staff said that while they are still tallying the amount of money raised, the benefit was a "huge, huge success," and brought in at least \$37,500.

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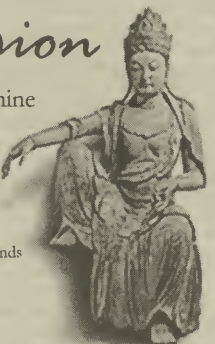
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## A crowded field

The list of Democrats challenging President Bush for the 2004 election got a little longer yesterday, when retired General Wesley Clark ended months of speculation and announced he was seeking the nomination. Clark, a former NATO supreme commander, Rhodes scholar, and combat veteran who served in Vietnam, has the potential to challenge Bush on national security – an area in which Democrats have repeatedly been painted as weak by Republicans.

There are now 10 candidates in the Democratic race to become the party's nominee next year. Clark likely will receive a burst of buzz, but whether his campaign catches on is another matter. He is entering the race late, has never held elected office, and has not, by most accounts, taken positions on various domestic issues. He opposed the war in Iraq, and is viewed as a pro-gay moderate by many gay rights advocates.

As a military man, perhaps what's most intriguing to us about a Clark campaign is that he has expressed the need for a review of the Pentagon's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy that prohibits gays and lesbians from serving openly in the military. He told NBC's Tim Russert that the policy "absolutely" should be changed, and pointed out something we've always known, "Essentially, we've got a lot of gay people in the armed forces, we always have had, always will." He went on to state that people who want to serve should be welcomed. It would take an act of Congress, however, to repeal DADT, something Clark has not pointed out, and, somewhat disturbingly, later statements made by him on various news programs have backtracked a bit from the answer he gave Russert on *Meet the Press* in June.

Nonetheless, Clark has issued a number of statements that put him in line with his

fellow Democratic challengers. He opposes the Federal Marriage Amendment, and has expressed support for the U.S. Supreme Court's *Lawrence v. Texas* ruling that overturned sodomy laws. Unlike President Bush, Clark does not believe gays are "sinners," as the president said in July.

The current campaign for the 2004 presidential election, while starting earlier than ever, offers gays the unprecedented opportunity to push candidates on the issues that matter to us. While we saw the beginning of this in the 2000 election, it seems safe to say that gay issues have arrived in terms of being discussed on the campaign

trail. Part of that, of course, is due to the surging of new front-runner Howard Dean, who as Vermont governor signed the historic civil union legislation in his state a few years ago. While most of the Democratic candidates do not support gay marriage, the majority support domestic partnerships and other issues important to the community. Only Florida Senator Bob Graham, who's way behind in both polls and fundraising, has not expressed unqualified support for domestic partnership.

While we wait for a final determination by the courts over the status of the California recall, we'll be watching Clark as he makes his political debut. ▼



Editorial



## The marriage quagmire

by Wendy McElroy

The issue of gay marriages is exploding on the federal and state levels with some politicians calling for a constitutional amendment to define marriage as "between a man and a woman." These politicians are correct about one thing: The institution of marriage is in jeopardy. But it's the politicians themselves constituting the threat.

The power of government over marriage has swollen in the past few decades. Traditionally, politicians have used various methods to control marriage, including:

- They define what constitutes a marriage and criminalize or refuse to recognize other unions. For example, in 1967, 16 states still had laws against interracial marriage.

- They usurp rights and make their exercise dependent upon marital status. For example, it can be difficult for gays to assert inheritance rights even when a committed common law union – a clearly implied contract – is present.

- They offer entitlements, such as welfare benefits, based on marital status. For example, the Personal Responsibility, Work and Family Promotion Act of 2002 strengthened the emphasis that the Welfare Reform Act of 1996 had placed upon the promotion of marriage in state welfare programs. Government funding is government control.

The current battle over marriage can be dated back to the Defense of Marriage Act of 1996, which was widely considered to be an antigay measure. The act federally defines marriage as a heterosexual institution thus negating federal entitlements, such as veteran's benefits, to homosexual partners. It also allows states to reject recognition of same-sex marriages that might be sanctioned by the laws of another state.

Nevertheless, authority to recognize same-sex marriage still resides on the state level and some states have pushed toward legalization. The Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts is now considering *Goodridge v. Department of Public Health*, a case in which gays have sued to secure legal mar-

riage as a right. (This is different from Vermont, which recently secured the somewhat more limited civil unions.)

Journalist David Mattson explained the possible significance of *Goodridge*. If it succeeds, other states might "be required to provide legal recognition of these same-sex marriages under the full faith and credit clause of the Constitution..." If unsuccessful and appealed, the U.S. Supreme Court could "decide that the states must recognize these marriages, in essence changing the Massachusetts Constitution and forcing same-sex marriage on all the states."

There is reason to believe that the Supreme Court would rule in favor of *Goodridge* and same-sex marriage. On June 26, in a ruling on *Lawrence v. Texas*, the Supreme Court struck down the Texas sodomy laws that effectively banned gay sex. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia expressed his dissent and called the decision an invitation to "gay marriage," presumably because it extended due-process provisions of the 14th Amendment to cover sexual preference.

Thus, advocates of traditional marriage have sharpened their calls for an amendment that could end all debate over the constitutionality of gay marriage by embedding a heterosexual definition into the Constitution itself.

As for the opposition to an amendment from the gay rights community, it is not clear whether advocates of same-sex marriage are pursuing rights or entitlements.

The Supreme Court's ruling on *Lawrence* gave the gay community a rights victory by throwing the government out of their bedrooms. Yet some gay advocates are beckoning government right back in by asking for a state stamp of approval on their relationships. They want gay marriages legally sanctioned on the same level as heterosexual ones, thus allowing gays and their spouses to access massive entitlements on both the state and federal level, including eligibility

for public assistance benefits.

The Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders – a powerful gay rights organization – made this goal clear in a release concerning *Goodridge*. In response to the question, "Why not the civil union solution adopted by Vermont?" GLAD responded:

"Civil unions are a good first step, but they don't go far enough... Gay and lesbian couples want and need what everyone else has – the right to receive the full protections bestowed by the state and federal government that come through marriage." A main difference between a marriage and a civil union is that the former has an automatic claim on various federal entitlements.

Advocates of gay marriage do not seem to be rebelling against state control; they want to be subsumed by it.

The current debate over gay marriage is a power play at the highest levels of government and the judiciary to control what should be the most personal matter between human beings: marriage.

To save its soul, marriage needs to be removed from power politics and privatized.

What constitutes a marriage should be determined by contract between the consenting adults involved, not by government. Politicians should be stripped of the power to dictate which consenting adults may marry or the terms of those marriages. The only proper concern of law should be to enforce the contract and to arbitrate any breach that occurs.

In performing this function, it should give no more weight to the sexual preference of those involved than it gives to their skin color – that is, none at all. The only "entitlement" that should accompany marriage is the enforcement of the terms of that contract. ▼

Wendy McElroy is a research fellow at the Oakland-based Independent Institute and editor of *ifeminists.net*.



## LETTERS

## Self-serving lawsuits?

I have been an openly gay disabled access activist for many years and am disappointed that lawsuits against small businesses are being used as an apparent "shakedown" against queer businesses in the Castro ["Wave of disability lawsuits hits Castro," September 11].

The use of ADA in the litigant's organization name is an obvious attempt to trade on the Americans with Disabilities Act and the civil rights connected with it. The buildings cited in his suits all predate ADA and need not be made accessible unless a substantial remodeling is also planned. The rents are cheap because of the limited access. It sounds like one business tried to provide reasonable accommodation, but that is not good enough for the plaintiff. George Louie's litigation activities give the impression of a small business home-based ambulance chaser looking for a way to file a lawsuit. Who needs seven vehicles with GPS? We have street addresses.

These kinds of suits serve only to benefit the litigants while alienating the business community from persons with disabilities.

The Castro needs improved access in the minds of other queers who look upon those of us with disabilities as a world apart.

I am currently organizing physically disabled queers (SFPDQ@aol.com) as a way to improve physical access and inclusiveness. I hope that our group can produce results through education, not self-serving lawsuits.

John Cailleau  
San Francisco



## Mailstrom

## Register to vote!

I just got back from last weekend's Democratic convention in Los Angeles, where we rallied together to discuss the current state of affairs and voted to endorse no on the recall, and yes in support of Cruz Bustamante for the October 7 election.

Locally, there is a get out the vote campaign (GOTV) and more than 3,500 people have registered with the goal of 4,000 registered people by this Monday, September 22, the deadline to register. LGBT voters are included in that figure and we want more! Your one vote is what you have, use it and let's have the largest percentage turnout.

The recent legislation by Assemblyman Mark Leno, signed by Governor Gray Davis, (AB196) giving protection from gender discrimination in California in employment and housing is a huge victory for all queers and one more step forward on our long, long road. Davis also pledged to sign the domestic partnership bill and more could follow. Let's walk it together, all of us, no matter what our various differences may be. There are all kinds of ways to take action and if you are into something else besides politics, that is fine, just get out there!

An all too little known fact is that more than three transgender people are brutally murdered each and every month. These deaths have been happening for years and the fact that so very few people know about them is an outrage. These are only the deaths we know about and yet these statistics are incredible. It is appalling to me that the news media condones this hatred by choosing to dismiss our reality and they have succeeded in ignoring this for years. We need to demand widespread coverage of this injustice, as well as work toward anti-hate crime legislation on the federal level.

As for our GOTV efforts locally, we are reaching out and approaching people at gatherings, doing club sweeps, reaching out at clinics, on the streets, and at special community events. There are fundraisers to assist these efforts. We all know it's risky to approach strangers and ask folks to talk politics. It's easier to do in groups and I find it inspiring and uplifting. We are letting community members know we will be approaching them and also extending our invitation to those who wish to join in the efforts. To get involved, contact me by e-mailing dion@dionmanley.com or calling (415) 252-7567 for more information. We have a special message of outreach to the trans communities: if you can, get out and register to vote. Pass this on to your friends and register to vote.

Dion Manley  
San Francisco

## Support Harris for DA

Congratulations to Wayne Friday for getting his endorsement right in supporting Kamala Harris for district attorney ["Kamala Harris for DA," Our Man Friday, September 11]. I also want to extend my thanks to the Bay Area Reporter editorial board for its early endorsement of her candidacy as well ["Harris for district attorney," Editorial, September 4].

Voting for Kamala Harris is a vote against the divisive politics of the recent past. Both Harry Britt and Mark Leno support Harris because she will restore professionalism, ethics, and competence to the office of the district attorney. Harris can bridge differences and generations. She has drawn in long-standing activists like Alice Club co-chairs Rich Kowalewski and Theresa Sparks; Hank Wilson; Milk Club President

Robert Haaland; and Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon. Her appeal also stretches to the new generation; young activists such as myself are coming out from groups like the San Francisco Young Democrats to support Harris. We have all joined her team.

Harris has been a longtime supporter of the LGBT communities and will continue to stand with us when she becomes the district attorney. LGBT voters should join the long and growing list of community leaders and vote for Kamala Harris on November 4.

Owen P. Stephens  
San Francisco

## Kudos for 'Queer Careers'

Just a quick note to say that I really like the new column by Eric Ganther, called "Queer Careers."

The article about the gay contractor was quite interesting - it's great to hear about people who come to the Bay Area and are able to find a different angle on a profession that is stereotypically so "macho" and straight ["Gay general contractor talks of his trade," August 14].

The one about the photographer was also great ["Not just another pretty face: Photographer focuses on beauty," August 28]. Seeing people being successful doing what they like is always an encouraging antidote to the "corporate grindstone."

In tough economic times like these, it's especially important to hear how we might be able to "leverage" skills that we have as queer people (even simply the "toughness" that comes from overcoming previous hurdles as a minority group to survive, and thrive).

Looking forward to subsequent issues of this great new feature! Thanks.

Kevin Shields  
San Francisco

## Debatable differences

I'd like to thank Eric Smith for his thoughtful letter ["Mailstrom, August 28]. I have worked on Tom Ammiano's campaigns over the years, including his write-in campaign, answering phones, door-to-door canvassing, and writing checks to Tom, but this election is different. The life of the political left is at stake. If we, who are on the left, don't put our best candidate forward, we will have no one to blame but ourselves for the corporate, big-money candidate (Gavin Newsom) make it to the mayor's seat.

This election is probably going to be decided in a December runoff. If anyone has any doubts who is the better mayoral candidate and will win in a runoff with Newsom, attend as many of the mayoral debates as possible between now and the election. You will see, there is no contest that Matt Gonzalez is the better candidate. He is cool headed, has well thought out arguments on the issues, and has done his homework with insightful rebuttals and fresh ideas.

I was disappointed to read further in Mr. Smith's letter, of his wondering if there was internalized homophobia with many of the LGBT community switching to Matt. I can only tell you that as a gay man now working on Matt's campaign, Mr. Smith is way off the mark. It's a fun, alive campaign with everyone just so excited to be behind Matt and his ideas for this city.

Matt Gonzalez has resurrected the passions of the left that Tom once had. He has many impassioned visions for the future of San Francisco. These well thought plans for the future are the only way of defeating Newsom. Tom will never be forgotten for his many years of dedicated service to our city, but it's now time to dig deep within our souls and establish a goal of winning the mayor's office with a left candidate. Tom will always be a part of our past LGBT and political left history, but he has become more of a centrist candidate over the years and has few new ideas. As Thomas Jefferson once said, "I like the dreams of the future better than the history of the past."

Matt has been a staunch ally of the LGBT community throughout his career in the Public Defender's office, and now as president of the Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Tony Hall said that the board has never gotten along so well or been more effective since Matt became president. Matt is pushing for a pilot project to explore tidal energy, he introduced an ordinance for blocking "formula retail businesses" (chain stores), and has authored a \$8.50 citywide livable wage measure for this November's ballot. He is currently working to implement voter-approved instant runoff voting, wants a municipal bank in San Francisco, and wants to replace the city payroll tax with a gross receipts tax which is good for businesses in the city and will encourage hiring more employees.

Matt's a great guy, and I strongly advise those who are curious to attend a mayoral debate. Matt is flawless.

Just like all grassroots campaigns, volunteers are essential with Matt's campaign. Find out more at [www.mattgonzalez.com](http://www.mattgonzalez.com) or visit the headquarters at the Horseshoe Cafe at 568 Haight Street, between Fillmore and Steiner.

Robert Meslinsky  
San Francisco

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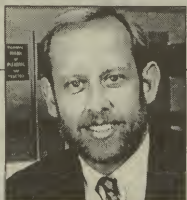
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# Transgenderism, not terrorism

by Gwendolyn Ann Smith

**N**o less an entity than the recently formed United States Department of Homeland Security has decided that law enforcement needs to keep a strict eye out for "males dressed as females." It is one of the clearer examples of how transgenderism and gender variance is equated with deception.

The paragraph in question – pulled from DHS's #238 press release – seems innocuous enough. "Previous attacks underscore al-Qaeda's ability to employ suicide bombers – a tactic which can be used against soft targets and VIPs. Terrorists will employ novel methods to artfully conceal suicide devices. Male bombers may dress as females in order to discourage scrutiny."

In fact, I think the most notable thing is what it doesn't say.

It makes no attempt to say that a terrorist would not wear, say, the garments of a cleric in an attempt to "discourage scrutiny." It makes no attempt whatsoever to provide any other example than that of a man dressing as a woman in order to evade suspicion.

This concerns me even more as new screening devices, such as the Rapiscan Secure 1000, start making their way into more airports. This particular device creates a real-time X-ray image of a person – one that only penetrates as deep as the skin, providing a perfectly nude image of anyone being checked by this machine.

This is already invasive if one is transgender: breast forms, packers, bindings, and the best tucks in the world will be revealed to any authorized personnel standing behind the machine. Add to this the concerns raised by the DHS, and a transperson could find themselves facing a very difficult situation. Especially with fresh allegations of the abuse of the Patriot Act in cases not involving terrorism.

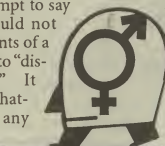
Of course, the DHS release doesn't only speak of airports, but suggests that other "soft targets" could be at risk. Its list includes restaurants, gas stations, hotels, apartment complexes, and shopping malls. Places that all people – including transgender people – are likely to utilize.

In short: this warning could have big consequences to anyone who is perceived as "crossdressing." It won't matter so much how good one looks, or what one self identifies as: any transperson is a



potential target for scrutiny.

This is not the first time we've been through this. In the era of Stonewall, laws against crossdressing were common. Indeed, the most recent case of such archaic laws being struck down was in San Diego, just a handful of years ago. It would not surprise me if there are locales in the United States where such laws are still on the books.



**Transmissions**

As best I can tell, most of these had a basis in morality issues, whether it was supposedly to prevent homosexual prostitution, or was just simply because appearing in another gender's attire was just deemed "unnatural." Many of them required that a person, if so dressed, had to be wearing three items of their birth gender's clothing. Some were more stringent, with some biological females having to get special licenses in order to wear pants in public!

For one of the more dramatic examples of anti-crossdressing laws, one has to go back to Joan of Arc, who was put to death for appearing in masculine attire; a fact that seems to have been lost in more than a few of the modern retellings of this story, but I digress. I don't want to compare a DHS press release with being burned at the stake.

As with much of western law, prohibitions against transgender behavior can be traced back to the Christian Bible, specifically to Deuteronomy 22:5. This passage indicates that appearing in garments of a gender opposite of your birth gender is an "abomination."

Many biblical scholars feel this refers to some contemporary non-Christian sects use of crossdressing priestesses, such as the gallae, while others suggest that the prohibition was to prevent women

from crossdressing in order to sneak into the all-male temples.

It would seem that these concerns about people appearing in a cross-gendered fashion lies at the heart of most such laws. Indeed, the DHS press release relies on this.

I've never been sure where this assumption of deception comes from. While there are examples on record of just such actions, is it truly common enough to warrant as much concern that has been given to it?

Popular culture is rife with films and television shows – both comedies and dramas – that use cross-gendered presentations as part of duplicity. In recent years, there have been scores of big-screen pictures that present transgender behaviors in such a light.

The same can be seen in the talk shows, with the longtime antics of *The Jerry Springer Show* being a prime example of transgender people being shown as deceivers. Though I assure you, I am expecting a new reality show to challenge Springer any day now: Joe Transsexual, anyone?

The news media is not immune either, with tales of cross-dressed bank robbers and the like garnering greater-than-average press coverage. For that matter, in cases where a transgender person may be on trial for a crime, the issue of their transgender status often becomes the focus of the trial regardless of it having a relevance to the case.

As I said before, I know that there are plenty of examples of deception taking a cross-gender edge. I just don't see it as being the problem that some might have you believe. Specifically, I think this DHS release may do more harm to transgender and gender variant people than any potential good it may do in thwarting terrorism on United States soil.

After all, I shouldn't have to prove that I am not a threat to national security. ▼

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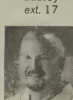
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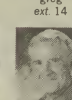
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## POLITICS

# National Democrats rally around Gov. Davis

by Wayne Friday

Starting with an appearance Sunday before a packed Los Angeles African American church and later at an appearance in a largely Latino neighborhood, former President **Bill Clinton** offered up an impassioned plea to Californians to vote no on the recall of Governor **Gray Davis** during a two-day visit to the state this week.

As Clinton appeared with Davis at his side, and later with both Davis and Lieutenant Governor **Cruz Bustamante** in stops around the state, it became clear that Clinton's highly-touted visit to California is part of an effort to stress to voters the national stakes Democrats see in this upcoming recall election.

Other prominent Democrats are quickly lining up behind Davis to oppose the recall, which has begun to lose some steam in recent public opinion polls, and was delayed Monday by a three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, though that decision is expected to be appealed. Clinton's appearance, particularly in voter-rich Southern California, was clearly designed to energize committed Democrats at the party's core in the state and his presence highlighted the importance his party sees in the dump Davis effort organized by conservative Republicans.

Former Vice President **Al Gore**, civil rights leader the Reverend **Jesse Jackson**, and at least two presidential contenders — Senators **John Kerry** (Massachusetts) and **Bob Graham** (Florida) — were also slated to appear this week to campaign for Davis.

Arguing that the GOP-imposed recall move against Davis is "unjust, unfair, reckless, and a power grab by Republicans" that is part of a national effort, and warning that California faces dire consequences if the recall succeeds, Clinton's show of support in a state where he remains incredibly popular came after recent polls showed Davis gaining some ground in his fight to defeat the recall.

The Davis effort also received a boost over the weekend when Bustamante, the leading Democrat seeking to replace him, appeared publicly with him and assured Democratic state convention delegates that his first priority is to defeat the recall, not to replace Davis.

Meanwhile, those state Democrats attending the Los Angeles meeting last weekend also rallied behind the no on the recall, yes on Bustamante strategy, while California Republicans, also gathering in Los Angeles, came away from their convention with two candidates seeking to replace the governor in the event he is recalled. The state GOP convention delegates were clearly divided between support for actor **Arnold Schwarzenegger** and conservative state Senator **Tom McClintock** (Thousand Oaks).

As the latest *Los Angeles Times* poll finds that California voters are almost evenly divided on whether to recall Davis, Clinton was clearly attempting to link the recall effort to a broader pattern of Republican behavior, citing his own impeachment, the 2000 "stolen" presidential election, and

recent Republican attempts to pull off an unusual mid-decade reapportionment of congressional seats in Texas and Colorado.

Political analysts said this week that Clinton's appearance in California and his strongly partisan message could resonate with Democrats who have become increasingly emboldened in their efforts to take on Republican policies and tactics, especially when the popularity of President **George W. Bush** is falling.

Though there was reportedly "tons" of pressure at the GOP convention — some subtle and some not so subtle — on McClintock to step aside in favor of the actor-turned-politician,

McClintock and his backers were having no part of it. Indeed, McClintock, the true conservative in the Republican field of replacement candidates, assured supporters that he is the race "all the way to the end," pointing out that it is he, not Schwarzenegger, who is the "true Republican" in the contest. McClintock drew loud cheers from GOP delegates as he declared "great parties are built on great principles — this is not a time to change our principles, this is a time to showcase them."

In a television interview Sunday with *San Francisco Chronicle* columnist and KRON-TV personality **Phil Matier**, McClintock blasted Schwarzenegger by saying "if the Schwarzenegger campaign spent a tenth of the time studying the issues as they've spent trying to muscle me out of the race, they'd be in much better shape today." McClintock continued: "The momentum has been entirely with my campaign from the first day of this race and Arnold has been stuck in the mid-to-low 20s in every poll. He's not going anywhere. If that momentum continues in the next couple of weeks, what is now a three-person race will easily become a two-person race — between me and Cruz Bustamante."

McClintock does not sound like anyone intending — at least not for the moment — to step aside in favor of an actor who suddenly wants to become governor, or as the Reverend **Al Sharpton** says of Arnold: "Schwarzenegger — he's only **Pete Wilson** with muscles."

Two weeks ago I would have probably bet money that Davis was political toast; now, like many others, I'm not so sure. Are you still undecided on what to do on October 7? Let me offer this: Vote no on the recall, yes on Bustamante.

## Politics & people

More on the recall (will it or will it not still be on October 7?): Some gay groups have called on Arnold Schwarzenegger to apologize for his use of "fag" — which they say is demeaning — in a 1977 *Oui* magazine interview, and a women's group called Code Pink has begun picketing some Schwarzenegger events to protest what it terms his "outrageous" comments about women and his conduct toward them. But, lo, and behold, the Schwarzenegger campaign has suddenly come up with an old Schwarzenegger girlfriend, one **Barbara Baker**, who says she

dated the bodybuilder 27 years ago and had her heart "broken" by his refusal to marry her (lucky for you, **Maria**), but now Baker is trying to reassure California voters that those *Pumping Iron*-era stories portraying Schwarzenegger as an orgy-loving party boy are really overblown. Interesting that Baker's comments are now coming out at a time when not only are Schwarzenegger's political handlers seeking to blunt criticism of his past, but it seems that Baker — after 27 years — is now ready to publish *Surviving Arnold*, her memoir about their relationship. What the hell, everyone's gotta make a buck, but you've got to wonder just how much influence the Schwarzenegger campaign has on what shows up in the upcoming Baker "memoir."

It might be too late to help him (if he doesn't win either

Iowa or New Hampshire) but U.S. Senator **John Kerry** (D-Massachusetts) picked up an important boost Tuesday when he was endorsed by Senator **Dianne Feinstein** (D-California) for president in the upcoming March California Democratic primary.

And then there were 10: Retired General **Wesley Clark** made it official Wednesday — he's running for president. Clark, former supreme commander of NATO, is expected to shake up the already crowded Democratic field.

Those close to Oakland Mayor **Jerry Brown**, once a two-term governor of California, tell me the East Bay mayor has definitely decided to seek the post of state attorney general when **Bill Lockyer** becomes term out in 2006. First, however, he needs to get a handle on the skyrocketing homicide rate in Oakland. As of Monday, this year's murder rate in Oakland hit 93, more than the 80 recorded homicides at this time last year. At a weekend news conference in City Hall, protesters fed up with the killings were seen on television chanting "Recall."

**Mike DeNunzio**, **Harold Hoogasian**, **Don Casper**, and **Elsa Cheung** are among a group of supporters holding a fundraiser-reception for mayoral candidate **Tony Ribera** on October 3, 6-8 p.m., at the Spanish Cultural Center, 2850 Alemany Boulevard (\$50 minimum donation asked; 415-826-0867 for info). I wouldn't bet on Ribera becoming the city's next mayor, but he's a hell of a good guy.

The Mission Merchants Association, in association with the Greater Mission Rotary Club, the San Francisco Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and San Francisco La Raza will host a mayoral debate Monday, September 22, 7-9 p.m. at the Victoria Theatre, 2961-16th Street (near the 16th Street BART station). Victoria Theatre owner **Anita Correa** will moderate a panel of Mission District leaders with candidates **Angela Alioto**, **Tom Ammann**, **Matt Gonzalez**, **Susan Leal**, **Gavin Newsom**, and **Tony Ribera**. Admission is free, but seating is limited.

Is there a difference between same-sex marriage and domestic partnerships? Hardline right-wing Republicans don't think so, and

next page ►



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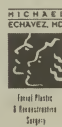
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# Four reasons to oppose the Federal Marriage Amendment

by Dale Carpenter

It's time to start marshaling our arguments against the Federal Marriage Amendment. The FMA, which has now been introduced in the House of Representatives, would define marriage in the United States as the union of one man and one woman. It would henceforth ban gay marriages (and other forms of legal recognition of gay couples) throughout the country—at least until the amendment could be repealed, something that has happened only once in more than two centuries of constitutional history. Passage of the FMA would set back the cause of gay marriage for perhaps 25-50 years, possibly for the lifetime of most people reading this column.

The theory of the FMA seems to be that the states must be saved from themselves, from their own legislatures, from their own courts, and from their own people, lest they formally recognize gay relationships. Whatever one thinks of same-sex marriage as a matter of policy, no person who cares about our Constitution should support this amendment. It is unnecessary, contrary to the structure of our federal system, anti-democratic in a peculiar way, and a form of overkill.

The central argument against the FMA is that allowing gay marriage would be a good thing, for gays and society. But here are four arguments against the FMA that even an opponent of gay marriage should be able to accept:

• First, a constitutional amendment is unnecessary. It is a solution in search of a problem. No state in the union has yet recognized same-sex marriages. Even if and when a state court approved same-sex marriage in its own jurisdiction, that can and should be

a matter for a state to resolve internally, through its own governmental processes, as in fact the states have been doing.

Supporters of the FMA argue that the Constitution's full faith and credit clause might be used to impose gay marriage on the country. That clause requires each state to give "full faith and credit" to the "public acts, records and judicial proceedings" of other states. But this clause has never been interpreted to mean that every state must recognize every marriage performed in every other state. Each state may refuse to recognize a marriage performed in another state if that marriage would violate the state's public policy.

Thirty-seven states have already declared it is their public policy not to recognize same-sex marriages.

It is also unlikely the Supreme Court or the federal appellate courts, for the foreseeable future, would declare a constitutional right to same-sex marriage. *Lawrence v. Texas*, the recent sodomy decision, does not change this. *Lawrence* involved the most private of acts (sexual conduct) in the most private of places (the home); by contrast, marriage is a public institution freighted with public meaning and significance. If I gave my first year constitutional law students an exam question asking them to distinguish *Lawrence* from a decision favoring same-sex marriage, I am very confident they could do so.

Moreover, if the court were suddenly to order nationwide same-sex marriage it would be taking on the entire country, something it almost never does. We should not tamper with the Constitution to deal with hypothetical questions as if it were part of some national law school classroom.

• Second, a constitutional amendment would be a radical intrusion on federalism. States have traditionally controlled their own family law. The nation's commitment to this federalism is enshrined in our Constitution's very structure.

But federalism is not valuable simply as a tradition. It has a practical benefit. It allows the states to experiment with public policies, to determine whether they work. That is happening right now.

States are trying a variety of approaches to test whether encouraging stable same-sex unions is, on balance, a good or bad thing.

Repudiating our history, the FMA would prohibit state courts or even state legislatures from authorizing same-sex marriages. It might even prevent state courts from enforcing domestic partnership or civil union laws.

• Third, the FMA would be peculiarly anti-democratic. Simple majority rule is the strong presumption of democracies. But, as conservative legal scholar Bruce Fein recently wrote, "that presumption and its purposes would be defeated by the constitutional rigidity and finality of a no-same-sex-marriage amendment."

While all constitutional amendments constrain democratic politics, the FMA would mark the first time in the nation's history the Constitution was amended to limit democratic decisions designed to make the states more inclusive and more affirming of individual rights. The FMA reflects a deeply anti-democratic impulse, a fundamental distrust of normal political processes.

• Fourth, the FMA is constitutional overkill. It is like hauling out a sledgehammer to kill a gnat. Even if I have been wrong about the imminent likelihood of a court-imposed gay marriage revolution, the FMA is not a carefully tailored response to that problem. A much narrower amendment, dealing only with preserving state's control on the issue, could be proposed. Even such a narrower amendment, however, would be unnecessary.

In sum, the FMA is not a response to any problem we currently have. Never before in the history of the country have we amended the Constitution in response to a threatened or actual state court decision. Never before have we adopted a constitutional amendment to limit the states' ability to control their own family law. Never before have we amended the Constitution to restrict the ability of the democratic process to expand individual rights. This is no time to start. ▼

Dale Carpenter is a law professor. Some of his past columns can be read at [www.indiegayforum.com](http://www.indiegayforum.com). He can be reached at [OutRight@aol.com](mailto:OutRight@aol.com).

## Our Man Friday

◀ previous page

that's the reason state Senator Pete Knight (R-Palmdale) says he'll go to court to overturn Assemblywoman Jackie Goldberg's (D-Los Angeles) AB205 should Governor Davis sign it into law as he has said he will do.

Phil Gordon, a former city council member with a number of friends in San Francisco, was elected mayor of Phoenix last week. Gordon, a Democrat, defeated a Republican in the city's nonpartisan election.

And to those who insist I tell them who I'm supporting for

mayor—two candidates, in particular, look very good from where I'm sitting, but let's wait until after the October 7 recall, okay?

Well, I guess it had to happen sooner or later—the Montana Family Coalition plans to launch a campaign against the TV show *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy*. Officials said their campaign will target advertisers who air commercials during the hit reality show, which features gay designers who give straight men makeovers. Gay rights advocates said the show is an example of growing mainstream acceptance of gays. The popular program runs on the Bravo network.

And how was your week? ▼



## COMMUNITY NEWS

## Transgenders

◀ page 1

miliar with such a passage may be a good indication that the alert will be interpreted differently throughout the country.

"I hadn't heard of anything like that," Nico Melendez, spokesman for the TSA, told the *Bay Area Reporter*. Melendez at first said the alert sounded "bogus" and that "if the department put something like that out, I'd be very surprised."

Melendez then called back to say TSA had "little knowledge" of such an alert and that DHS should be contacted instead.

A DHS spokeswoman also was not familiar with the particular passage, and it took several phone calls to be put in touch with a representative who could even identify the press release.

Without uniformity in applying security strategies, said Foster, everyone perceived as different will face unknown circumstances. Her instinct, she said, is that the DHS intended for the alert to apply to those dressed in traditional Muslim clothing.

"I'm presuming that security officials will take it in the spirit of this alert, that is, looking for someone specifically who would adopt a more expected disguise, if you will," said Foster.

Of course, acknowledged Foster, those dressed in traditional Muslim clothing are more prone to scrutiny regardless of their gender. And in actuality, most of the images of the terrorists who boarded the planes on September 11, 2001 showed the men dressed in American business clothes.

DHS officials, once they located the release in question, did not

return calls by press time about how they envision the alert to be implemented. And DHS intentions may not necessarily translate nationwide; this is the same country where it was considered permissible to remove passengers of Middle Eastern descent from commercial airliners in order to make other passengers feel more comfortable.

Still, scrutiny of transgenders at airports is nothing new. The B.A.R. was one of the first news outlets to report on increased airport scrutiny of transgenders, as witnessed by a reporter returning to California from New York days after the September 11 terrorist attacks.

Since then, several agencies and publications have continued to report on the trend, noting that mismatched identification and/or misperceptions around transgenders being "deceptive" or "in disguise" probably target members of that population as suspicious.

But now that the unspoken trend has been put into words, advocates worry that gender variant individuals will face even greater struggles. And with that in mind, NTAC has released traveling tips for transgenders.

"Airport screeners and other law enforcement agencies will be much more vigilant than usual ... they may be more likely to commit unwitting abuses. At the minimum, the transgender community should be mindful of the new alerts and prepare accordingly when traveling this fall, especially if flying," said the NTAC alert, which further advised that transgenders who are not pursuing hormone therapy or a legal change of gender would be wise to dress in clothing that matches the sex on their identification.

"Crossdressers should seriously

consider doing any air travel in male garb until reaching their destination," said the NTAC statement. "Even for those who've transitioned, issues may arise if authorities suspect something. When traveling, it is advisable to consider bringing your court-ordered name (and gender) change papers.

"In either case, be prepared to openly explain the truth about your transgender status if stopped and questioned by authorities. As frightening as this scenario may appear, hesitation or evasive answers will only draw more intense scrutiny and could possibly lead to police holding one temporarily for further interrogation," the NTAC statement continued. "Lack of cooperation with authorities will likely be treated unfavorably and unapologetically."

Foster again emphasized that she is not suggesting a governmental conspiracy against transgenders, but is instead trying to arm transgenders with information in the event that they are stopped.

With that in mind, she said, NTAC also wants reports of all incidents involving a transgender person who is forthcoming and still is verbally or physically abused or arrested under questionable pretense.

"An increased need for security should not give law enforcement a right to make personal character judgments and to abuse cooperative innocents," summarized Foster, who advised transgenders to live their lives, but travel smartly and safely. ▼


The full text of the DHS release can be found at [http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/interapp/press\\_release/press\\_release\\_0238.xml](http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/interapp/press_release/press_release_0238.xml)

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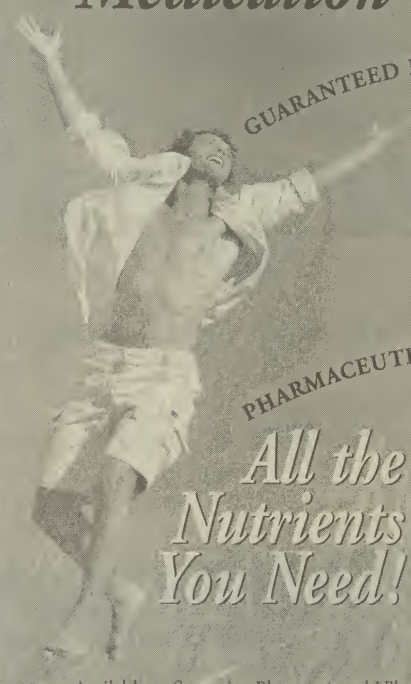
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# Halloween parade promoters seek entrants

by Matthew S. Bajko

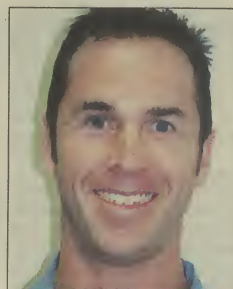
**T**rying to increase the length of and participation in this year's Halloween March of Light parade, the producers of the annual event launched a recruitment drive this month in hopes of attracting more community groups to participate.

More than 200 organizations received invites to join the lineup of lighted costumed marchers, dancing groups, and themed entrants. The normal entrance registration fee will be waived for any group that signs up by October 15.

An added incentive this year: KRON-4, the Bay Area's independent television station, is planning to cover the parade as part of its live Halloween broadcast. The station is the official media sponsor of this year's celebration in the Castro and will be preparing a special evening of programming on October 31.

The march "is a great way to express yourself, and gain significant exposure for your organization. Show off your creativity on KRON-TV as they broadcast live from the Castro," wrote Jim Lightsey, the producer of the event, in his letter to the groups.

Now in its third year, the March of Light is hoping this will be the year that the parade finally takes off and gives a focal point for the city's Halloween celebrations.



Jim Lightsey

The parade is billed as a celebration of life and is inspired by the nighttime parades of Rio, Berlin, and Sydney.

But from the start, the parade has had trouble getting off the ground, with opposition originally from Castro merchants, and then changes in its route, and flip-flopping of the night the parade was held. This year, the parade will serve as a sort of official kick-off for a new community-based effort to turn the street party in the Castro from a drunken free-for-all atmosphere into an alcohol-free celebration with entertainment.

The March of Light will begin with a "Day of the Dead" ceremony held from 6:30 to 7 p.m. at the Eureka Valley Recreation Center on Collingwood between 18th and 19th streets.

Afterward, parade participants will proceed on 18th to Castro Street, turn left, and proceed on Castro to Market. The march will then turn right on Market and head toward the LGBT Community Center at Market and Octavia.

Groups are asked to use electric and hybrid-energy vehicles which will receive priority placement in the parade. Only contingents powered by electric or renewable energy, including all lighting for individual costumes, will be eligible for judging in the official March of Light parade contest.

Groups wanting to participate should call (703) 286-2223 or register online at www.marchoflight.org.

Tickets for the seventh HellBall are also on sale through the Web site. The dance party this year will feature New York producer and DJ Tony Moran.

A benefit for Maitri and Continuum, the dance is produced by Resolve Production for the nonprofit New Light Foundation. The group has raised more than \$100,000 over the past six years for local LGBT and AIDS related causes.

Hellball 7 takes place from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. Saturday, October 25 at the Galleria Design Center at 2 Henry Adams Street. Tickets, which start at \$60, can also be purchased at Body Body Wear on Castro, Body by Citizen on 18th Street, or online at www.hellball.org. ▼

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# Sex club appeals to younger crowd

by Matthew S. Bajko

As the owner of San Francisco's newest sex club, Adrian English is tapping into what he sees as an under-served market: gay guys in their 20s and early 30s.

In advertisements for his club 333 Linden, named after its street address, English noticeably abandons the usual pictures of muscle men in their later 30s for a boyish young guy in the midst of studying, possibly for a college exam.

[For the record, the guy featured in the ads is 22 and a friend of English's from Australia. He still resides down under, and does not work at the club, to the disappointment of several who have asked if he did.]

Online, this marketing approach is enhanced with a background modeled after a page ripped out of a spiral notebook and another photo of a well-defined younger man. For English, 26, the ads are meant for guys who may not feel the city's other sex clubs are geared for them.

And if the club's signing up 350 members in a matter of weeks is any indication, English's suspicion that younger gay guys were yearning for a new space is turning into a successful business venture.

"I wanted to give gay and bi



Adrian English of 333 Linden

men in this town another choice, another option. I am satisfying a niche in the community, those people who don't want to go to Folsom Street, are not into leather and want a space that is a little more inviting," said English as he gave a tour of the facility. "We are targeting a younger crowd that isn't being serviced by the existing clubs. The marketing materials of those clubs are pitching themselves to a much more mature audience."

English, who formerly managed Mack Folsom Prison for about six months, said he had heard from many younger guys who felt there wasn't a sex club specifically built for them. And

while that is his main target audience, he said no one will be refused entry due to age. The only requirement is members need be at least 18 years old.

"We are very welcoming and open to anyone who comes through our doors and appreciate our more mature clients as well. We are definitely not exclusionary or unwelcoming to older guys," said English, who has received several e-mails from older men inquiring if they would be welcomed as members. "We have seen a real variety of the guys who come through the door. We are getting a lot of guys from the Castro end of town."

333 Linden is a private club and guys need to become members in order to have access to the space. Currently, a six-month membership runs \$10 and then members pay \$10 on weekdays or \$12 on weekends.

As of now there are no slings, no gym, and no boxing ring at 333 Linden. Instead, there is a hangout area with a television set usually tuned into KRON-4 or KQED and safe-sex materials. There is also a cyber cafe area with two computers, each with a webcam hookup, allowing club members access to the Internet.

The 4,500 square foot space is housed in a former industrial building on an alleyway in Hayes Valley. The clothing-optional club

page 16 ►



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# Fairfield wants Noel out

by Ed Walsh

**T**he city of Fairfield is fighting to get Robert Noel out of town.

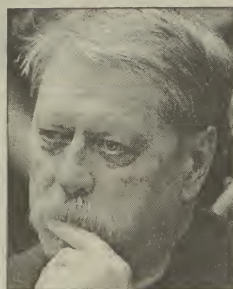
The man convicted in connection with the fatal dog mauling of Diane Whipple was paroled to the Solano County city this week. Fairfield's mayor, Karin Macmillan, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that she sent a letter to the California Department of Corrections on Monday, September 15, asking that Noel be located elsewhere.

Macmillan said she didn't think it was appropriate to parole a high-profile prisoner like Noel to her city.

"He wouldn't be able to blend in here," the mayor explained. "We don't believe it's good for Mr. Noel or our community."

In her letter to the Department of Corrections, Macmillan wrote: "It seems a bit unusual that Mr. Noel would be placed in a community less than an hour's drive from San Francisco considering the high-profile nature of his case. It can be argued that the victim's family and friends, the citizens of the state of California, and even Mr. Noel himself, would be better served by relocating him to a county further away from San Francisco."

"With our own crime and quality of life issues to deal with here in the city of Fairfield, we would ask you to reconsider the decision to keep Mr. Noel here in Fairfield. We respectfully request he be moved to another community as soon as possible. He does nothing to enhance the positive



Robert Noel

image we have for our city."

Fairfield's vice mayor, Harry Price, said he would bring up the issue at the city council meeting on Tuesday, September 16. Price said he encouraged Macmillan to write the letter to parole officials but he conceded that the city was probably powerless to force Noel, 62, out.

Price said the dog mauling case struck a personal chord with him because more than 35 years ago, a neighbor's dog mauled his then-5-year-old son. The boy was hospitalized for 13 days and required extensive reconstructive surgery.

"[Noel] carries a stigma with him that causes unnecessary alarm and concern," Price said.

A spokesman for the Fairfield Police Department also was critical of Noel's parole there.

"Is the police department happy about it? No," said Mike Johnson. "It's not just him, it's just that we're not happy when anyone from outside the area is paroled here."

Department of Corrections

spokeswoman Margot Bach said that Noel was released from High Desert State Prison in Susanville at 3:30 a.m. on Sunday, September 14. Bach said the early hour on Sunday was chosen for Noel's "own protection."

Noel was expected to be released on Friday, September 12, but Bach explained that the state has the option to delay a prisoner's release for up to five days.

Although no official would say so on the record, the delay may have been the result of the media showing up outside the Susanville prison last Friday. A spokesman for the prison told waiting news crews that Noel would not be brought out in front of reporters.

Bach said that the conditions of Noel's three-year parole term forbid him to go to San Francisco or have any contact with Whipple's family or friends or with Sharon Smith, Whipple's partner.

Smith declined interview requests, but through her attorney, Michael Cardoza, she issued this statement: "His time in prison was too brief and insignificant in relevance to my loss. He may be walking out of prison but he will be living in a prison the rest of his life knowing that he caused the death of Diane Alexis."

Noel's wife, Marjorie Knoller, 48, received an identical sentence as Noel but her release date is slated for March 14, 2004, at the earliest. Noel's prison term was reduced because, unlike Knoller, he worked in prison. Knoller has been "unable" to work in prison, possibly because of a health problem, Bach said. ▽

## A Test of Leadership on HIV Prevention

Human Rights Watch wrote to Gov. Gray Davis urging him to sign SB 774 which will allow adults to purchase up to 30 syringes without a prescription in order to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS:

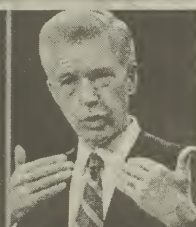
"Government-sponsored evaluations of both needle exchange and nonprescription pharmacy sales of syringes show that these programs dramatically reduce rates of HIV and hepatitis C prevention; provide impetus for the safe disposal of used syringes; and do not increase rates of drug use. Restricting these programs in the face of unassailable scientific evidence represents an affront to public health, and violates injection drug users' internationally recognized human right to take steps to protect themselves from epidemic disease..."

Senate Bill 774 is a test of your leadership on HIV prevention and human rights. We urge you to sign it into law."

You too can send a letter to the Governor by logging onto [www.HelpStopAIDS.com](http://www.HelpStopAIDS.com) or calling the Drug Policy Alliance Network at 415-921-4987 or 323-254-4498

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California Society of Addiction Medicine  
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Congress of California Seniors  
County Alcohol and Drug Program Administrators Association of California  
Drug Abuse Alternatives Center  
Glide Drug Treatment Center  
Harm Reduction Coalition  
Hepatitis C Task Force for Los Angeles County  
Homeless Health Care Los Angeles  
Human Rights Watch  
Jewish Family and Children's Services  
L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center  
Linda Vista Health Care Center  
Mann Treatment Center  
Nevada County Hepatitis C Support Group  
Nirvana Drug and Alcohol Treatment Program  
Organization to Achieve Solutions in Substance Abuse  
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Join Positive Force at 6:30pm for beverages and light snacks before Dr. Tony Mills begins his talk - discussion begins at 7pm.

For more information about this forum, or any Positive Force event, please call Positive Force at 415.865.0790 x305.

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## 333 Linden

◀ page 13

is divided into three floors, with the ground floor a locker room area and room for a sauna area or other expansion in the future.

The second level features a "blow job alley," a darkened raised walkway with numerous glory holes cut into the wall, a wall used to screen porn films on DVD with surround sound, and the cyber lounge area.

English said he wants to encourage guys to surf the Internet, and if they meet someone, to invite them to join them at the club. Those who come to the club because they met someone who was online there would get half-off admission.

"They can meet people here instead of at their home. I am hoping this will catch on with people who don't want to host," said English.

On the third floor are portioned off "rooms" with red plastic mats and baskets of lube and condoms. Because San Francisco law does not allow private spaces in sex clubs, the cubicle areas are open. The walls are painted blue and red, and television screens

showing porn are hang throughout the room.

The colors used are "a little bit of a departure of the traditional black on black," said English.

The club has a zero-tolerance policy when it comes to drugs. And for English, who has volunteered at the Stop AIDS Project, promoting safe sex is a top priority for his club. He is working on offering groups that do HIV prevention work a space inside the club. The area will also be used by the health department to do outreach and testing.

"I practice safe sex and I want people in my club to practice safe sex," he said. "I want to encourage gay men to look after their own health."

As for competing against the other sex clubs in town, English insists he is not out to drive the others out of business. Nor does he see himself as a threat to the other clubs.

"I don't have any ill will toward my former employer or other sex clubs in the city," he said. "There is plenty of room for all of us. I am not in direct competition with any of them."

But his opening did spark a flurry of competing posts on Craigslist since August, with posts

## A day of remembrance



Gay veterans with the Alexander Hamilton Post 448 of the American Legion remembered September 11, 2001 during a brief gathering last Thursday, September 11. From left, Bill Watson, Arch Wilson, post Commander Mario Benfield, Patty Duwel, Connie Morris, and George Gomez outside the Veterans Building on Van Ness Avenue in San Francisco.

from supposedly younger guys saying they would be going to Mack Folsom Prison. Other posts, which English swears he did not submit, sound like advertisements for 333 Linden.

The online feud prompted several men to become annoyed enough to post their own messages.

"It's time we all started flagging these idiots from both of these sex clubs... [Mack and 333 Linden]. Go buy some damn advertisement like a legitimate business. We aren't on Craigs to be bombarded with your plugs and put-downs of the other place. Both places sound like they're filled with high school girls... anybody with a brain on Craigs should boycott these clubs," read one post.

And one poster who had inquired about 333 Linden, in an e-mail to the *Bay Area Reporter*, said he welcomed a new sex club that had a more positive atmosphere associated with it. The man, who asked that his name not be used, said having new, additional spaces will help reduce the stigma and secrecy often placed on gay men's sex lives.

"I think that more venues create greater visibility, greater visibility can lead to great acceptance, greater acceptance can lead to more numerous and more varied clientele, and more clientele can lead to better experiences for everyone," he wrote in his e-mail. "Perhaps I'm being self-serving: maybe I just want more sex clubs to give me more options, and the greater good of mankind is just an

ancillary benefit."

As for English, he is planning a special celebration during the Folsom Street Fair weekend and has more party ideas in the works. Currently, he is waiving the entrance fee on Tuesdays and Wednesday nights if guys sign up to become members.

"I am 100 percent confident about that," he said about being open at least a year. "We have only been open three weeks and already had a great response. It can only get better from there."

The club is open weekdays from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. and on weekends from noon to 6 a.m. and is located at 333 Linden between Octavia and Gough streets. For more information, call (415) 863-1610. ▼



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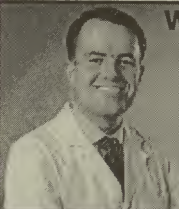


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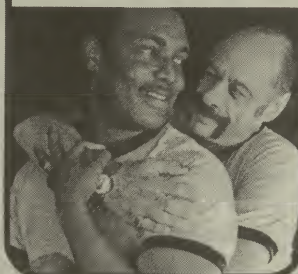
## SEPTEMBER EVENTS

## QUEERMOVIE NIGHT

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In Our Prime  
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Celebrate the end of summer with our final garden party of the year. All men over 40 welcome. Bring a dish or non-alcoholic beverage to share. Come rain or shine! Sunday, Sept 21, 1pm @ Most Holy Redeemer, 100 Diamond St @ 18th St (ADA accessible).

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Glow in the Dark Condoms? Pleasure Plus? Tired of latex, check out plastic. Here's a chance to see what's available without the bright lights of the drug store. And all the condoms and lubes are free! Wednesday, Sept 24, 7pm @ STOP AIDS Project, 2128 15th St @ Market St.



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## OBITUARIES

## John Coverdale



John has touched so many lives over his time on this place we call Earth. He has adopted brothers and sisters all over the world. Funny, somber and just John. Don't tell him he couldn't do something. That virus found that out 18 years ago!!!

In the 1970s John was instrumental in the seeding and cultivation of many human rights groups and was deeply involved in promoting gay rights with the Garden Fairies in Columbus, Ohio. John remained deeply rooted in the earth with many shoots, stalks and tendrils reaching out in all directions while always being guided upward and lifting others as he grew. John is, has, and always will be loved by all who were lucky enough to have known him. See ya later Frog!

Born July 15, 1954 in Columbus, Ohio, John attended the University of Life forever and City College of San Francisco, earning a degree there in Ornamental Horticulture. He was also a practicing Tibetan Buddhist.

Survivors: Mother, Irene Coverdale; Dave and Carol Coverdale of Mt. Sterling, Ohio; Tom Coverdale of Columbus, Ohio; Steve Coverdale of Santa Cruz, California; Nieces and Nephews, Sheila, Craig, Tressa, Melissa, Tony, and Lee.

Donations in his name may be sent to: RIGPA, 111 New Montgomery, Suite 403, San Francisco, CA 94105-3605, or Project Open Hand, 730 Polk St., San Francisco, CA 94109.

## George Knox

February 12, 1948 - Sept. 3, 2003



George Knox passed away at his home in San Francisco, his favorite city, on Wednesday September 3, 2003. George was a graduate chef but in recent years he was a bartender at the

Stud. He had traveled extensively the last several years, mostly to Thailand and Brazil where he has many friends. A gentle soul and loving spirit with a twinkle in his eyes; all who knew him feel a great loss.

He is survived by his mother, Dorothy Polk, and two sisters and six brothers all residents in the Los Angeles area. A benefit was held for George on Saturday September 6, 2003 at Esta Noche where he spent many happy times with staff and patrons. No memorial service is to be held, as requested.

The Stud will host a "Celebration of Life" for George (aka Grandma), our beloved friend and co-worker, on Thursday September 18, 2003, from 7 to 9:30pm.

Georges' charities: Mission Health Center and Aids Benefits Counselors.

## Lawrence Dean Segress

April 3, 1950 — August 19, 2003



Lawrence (Larry) Dean Segress, President of the First Presidency of the Restoration Fellowship in Jesus Christ, was called Home to be with the Lord on August 19th, 2003. His prayers were answered in that he went peacefully in his sleep. He is survived by his Life Partner, Alfonso China, and friends too numerous to mention, some having been included as his family. As a simple minister of the Lord, he not only preached diversity, he practiced it; he was friend, lover and confidant to people of many religious persuasions, socio-economic classes, sexual preferences, genders, and races. Chronic pain from a neck injury received in his youth and recovery from a triple bypass surgery performed four years ago at UCSF did nothing to dampen his boundless spirit and positive energy. His joyful and jovial humor, his generous, loving nature and his brilliant, genius intellect will be greatly missed. Having lived in San Francisco since 1976, he watched the community grow and permeate into what it is today. He stood in horror as the news of Harvey and George came over a phone call, and later was part of the first candlelight

vigil. All the while, recording life around him, in photographs.

A Celebration of Life is planned for a future date. Time and location to be announced. Per his request, his ashes are to be scattered at a site near Land's End and Baker Beach. Those wishing to extend their condolences and remembrances may do so to: ldssegressmemorial@prodigy.net.

Until we meet again at the Resurrection, my friend, be at Peace.

## "Doug" Michael Scott Lucas

"Doug" Michael Scott Lucas, 36, was born September 21, 1966 in southern Ohio and died suddenly March 18, 2003 in San Francisco.

Doug attended Ohio State University and studied English focusing on his creative writing. His fiction and book & film reviews were published in both independent newspapers and anthologies. His love of books led him to work primarily in bookstores and libraries including his last five years with Borders Books in downtown San Francisco.

Doug was a private, gentle and thoughtful person. He was easy to smile and quick to compliment. He sought to treat every person with respect and dignity. He loved great books, an engaging independent film, entertaining TV, watching football, jogging year round, winning a tough tennis match, playing with a friendly dog and tanning on the beach.

In death, Doug left behind two sons Tupac, 6, and Trevon, 1, of Albany, California. He shared his life with two long term companions Peter Leahy of Albany, California and previously Robert D. of Columbus, Ohio. Numerous friends, scores of co-workers and many loving family members continue to grieve our loss in his unexpected passing. His remains were cremated and laid to rest with his beloved father.

## OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

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# Take off

by Jim Provenzano

What are you doing tonight?

No, that's not a date. But if you're one of those eager readers who picks up the *Bay Area Reporter* on Thursday and reads this column, you could attend an event and win a plane ticket. How's that for speed dating?

To benefit the Team San Francisco Athlete's Assistance Fund, Team SF will be raffling off a round-trip airline ticket with US Airways on Thursday, September 18. The ticket was donated by the Gay & Lesbian Athletics Foundation (<http://www.glaf.org>), which hosted the first gay and lesbian sports conference in March in Boston.

The raffle takes place at the Metro bar (at Market and Nee streets) between 6-8 p.m. Raffle tickets will be \$5 each or five for

\$20. Have a drink, buy some tickets, meet some fellow jocks, and maybe win a round-trip plane ticket. (Good for one round-trip fare up to \$700. Blackout dates and other restrictions apply).

For more info, visit [www.teamsf.org](http://www.teamsf.org) or e-mail: [info@teamsf.org](mailto:info@teamsf.org).

## Pin is in

Sorry for the late arrival, but sometimes I get my info better late than never.

Bowling started up a new batch of leagues September 7 at Presidio Bowling Center in San Francisco. The competition is handicapped so all bowlers can more equally participate. The cost is approximately \$15 per week, plus WIBC or ABC membership, which is \$15 per year.

To find out if you can still join, call Duane Flohra at (510) 865-7272, e-mail: [duane300@earthlink.net](mailto:duane300@earthlink.net), or call Sara Tretbar (415)

337-7749.

## Angelico

The 22nd annual Angel Island Lesbigen Sports Day this Sunday, September 21, offers a shorter, yet still scenic, vacation for a day.

Join the annual celebration of LGBT sports at East Garrison on Angel Island, the state park in the middle of San Francisco Bay. Bring sports equipment for running, bicycling, volleyball, softball, football, Frisbee, hiking, swimming, or any other activity of your choice. Prefer a non-competitive sport? Join the always creative New Games.

Ferries also accommodate cyclists, and the bike trails wrap around the island, providing a lovely view from the other side of the bay.

Organizer Naphtali Offen described it as, "Just a chance for us to celebrate our jockiness and love of sports and each other."

The first chartered ferry departs at 8:30 a.m., with later boats at 9:45 and 11:30 a.m. Meet at Pier 41 in San Francisco. Return: 3 or 4:40 p.m. Cost: \$12.00 round trip. Ferries are also available from other Bay Area ports like Tiburon and Oakland.

Food? you betcha. A tasty potluck will offer a bountiful picnic. But you should bring something to share.

If your last name begins with A-F, bring a salad; G-M, bring a main course; N-S, bring a dessert; T-Z, bring beverages. Utensils, plates, and cups will be provided, and there's a couple of big grills for you carnivores.

Amazing how that list always ends up making for a well-rounded feast. For more info, e-mail: [lamda523@aol.com](mailto:lamda523@aol.com) or visit [www.sffrontrunners.org](http://www.sffrontrunners.org).

For an additional dollar, you can purchase ferry tickets (SF departure only) online at [www.teamsf.org](http://www.teamsf.org).

## Boston cleat party

The San Francisco Spikes soccer team trekked to Boston last month for the annual World Cup Championships. Although they only made it to the quarterfinals, the Spikes put in a good showing under occasionally stormy skies.

"We all had a great time, despite rain, muddy fields, and the daily change of schedule," said Spikes player Karl Myrvold.

Sixteen teams from the U.S., and a few other non-U.S. players

participated. After the preliminary rounds played Monday, August 4 through Wednesday (five games each), the top eight teams qualified for quarterfinals in Division 1 and the bottom eight for the quarterfinals in Division 2.

The Spikes' first team lost to the overall winner of Division 1, Team America, in a very close quarterfinal. The game was tied 1-1 after full time, and the same score after 15 minutes of extra time played. The game had to be decided by penalty kicks. Team America won 4-2 on penalty kicks. Team America won 3-0 over San Diego in the final. The Spikes second team lost in the Division 2 quarterfinal.

Next year's World Cup is sponsored by both the Spikes and the Golden Gate Women's Soccer League.

"We're trying very hard to get the word out that we're looking for more women's teams to participate and more involvement from women in the planning and execution of the games," said Karen Opp.

Opp has been a member of the GGWSL for six years, first with the Crux, an East Bay women's team, and more recently with the Mad Dog division of the Fog team, a San Francisco Division 4 team in the GGWSL.

She's also secretary of the

board of directors for the GGWSL. In addition to playing in the GGWSL, Opp, a 35-year-old writer/entrepreneur, was a member of the bronze-medal team (Olivia Scores) at the 2002 Gay Games, and a member of the Vain Girls United at this year's IGLEA tournament in Boston. She also participated in the Festival of the Babes, a 7-aside women's tournament that took place in Portland over Labor Day weekend.

"I played soccer in high school, but unfortunately Syracuse University [her alma mater] did not then have a women's soccer team while I was there, so I played for an indoor rec club for two years."

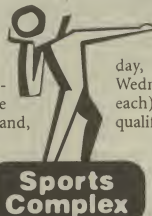
"Participating in the Gay Games was an incredible experience, not only due to the pomp and circumstance of the Opening Ceremonies, but meeting players from around the world, and the level of play," she said [there were approximately 27 women's teams]. "I can't think of any other tournament, gay or straight, in soccer where I would have had that same experience."

Despite her enthusiasm, and the popularity of women's soccer in general, and among lesbian leagues, the tournament in Boston was particularly hard for women for a couple of reasons, Opp said.

"There was an incredibly low show of teams (four) which was a big letdown after seeing 27 teams in Sydney (2002) and knowing there were nearly 60 teams at the Gay Games in Amsterdam (1998). Secondly, the weather and field conditions made play very difficult and even hazardous. In our final game against Belgium, a Belgian player broke her leg in three places during a defensive play. That was a sad note on which to end our final game."

Nevertheless, her optimism remains high for the 2004 Cup.

"It's my goal to get at least six women's teams from San Francisco registered to play, and I will definitely be on one of those teams," Opp said. ▽



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## COMMUNITY NEWS

## Recall

page 1

against the recall," said Executive Director Geoff Kors, "and a no on the recall and no on [Proposition] 54 remains the best way to protect all Californians' civil rights. That being said, Equality California believes that Lieutenant Governor Cruz Bustamante would be by far the most qualified to guide California through the uncertainty that will result if the gubernatorial recall were to succeed while protecting the significant civil rights advances that have been achieved under Governor Davis."

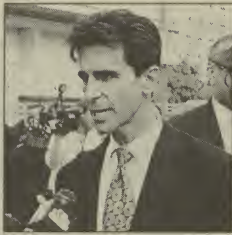
With its endorsement of Bustamante, EQCA is essentially following a strategy embraced by the state's LGBT Legislative Caucus, various Democratic leaders, Bustamante, and several newspapers, including the *Bay Area Reporter* and the *San Francisco Bay Guardian*.

EQCA came out against the recall in July. But after the special election was certified and the date set, the organization sent out questionnaires and interviewed candidates to determine whether it would support a replacement candidate. Kors said that actor Arnold Schwarzenegger, the leading Republican in the race, refused to answer the questionnaire or participate in an interview regarding his views on LGBT civil rights issues.

"If the right wing's recall of the governor is successful, the LGBT community will likely face similar attacks, and the advances obtained during Governor Davis's tenure could be in jeopardy," Kors said.

## Recall delayed

The recall election itself could be in jeopardy. On Monday, the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco delayed the special election, citing the fact that about 44 percent of the state's voters would have to use outdated and error-prone punch-card ballots. Counties that would still use punch-card ballots next month include Los Angeles, the state's



Mark Leno meets the press in Los Angeles last weekend.

most populous; and San Diego; Sacramento; Mendocino; Santa Clara; and Solano. Punch-card ballots with their "hanging chad," of course, became famous during the contested 2000 presidential election when Florida was ground zero in the battle for the White House. In that case, the U.S. Supreme Court intervened, ordered a halt to the recount, and essentially handed the election to President Bush.

Monday, a three-judge panel of the Ninth Circuit invoked the Supreme Court's *Bush v. Gore* decision in ruling that the California recall should be delayed until all counties switch to more reliable voting machines. That is expected to be completed by March 2004. While the appeals court decision did not set a new date, most observers believe it would be moved to March if the court decision stands. That election would also include the Democratic presidential primary, and is widely viewed as favorable for Davis, since presumably the race would attract a heavy Democratic turnout.

But like everything else surrounding the recall, nothing is for certain. Conservative GOP replacement candidate state Senator Tom McClintock (Thousand Oaks), has threatened to put an initiative on the March ballot that would repeal the bill Davis just signed allowing illegal immigrants to get driver's licenses. Such a move could trigger a high turnout by Republicans, some political pundits have noted.

At press time, the Ninth Circuit announced that an 11-judge panel of the court would accept briefs Wednesday, September 17 from the parties involved in order to rehear the election case.

In its decision, the appeals court included a seven-day stay to give the parties involved time to appeal. The lawsuit was the last of several challenging the recall, and was brought by the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California on behalf of several civil rights organizations.

The court's decision, if it stands, would also delay votes on Proposition 53, which would require a specified percentage of general fund revenue to be set aside for infrastructure improvements, and Proposition 54, which would bar state and local governments from collecting racial data. Opponents fear Proposition 54 would limit advances in medical research, education, and other matters.

Assemblyman Mark Leno (D-San Francisco), a member of the LGBT Legislative Caucus, initially told the B.A.R. that he was jubilant that the recall election had been delayed.

"It's prayers answered," Leno said. "I think the decision makes sense."

But a couple of hours later, Leno said that there would be problems postponing the election, specifically that it would mean six more months of campaigning, which could affect the ability of candidates running for other offices to raise money for their races.

"That's the double-edge of it," Leno said. "All of that affects money for Assembly races next year."

## Leno booted

Leno also told the B.A.R. that he was repeatedly told to leave an area outside last weekend's state Republican Party convention in Los Angeles, where he and Assemblywoman Jackie Goldberg (D-Los Angeles) were attempting to call attention to Schwarzenegger's lack of specifics concerning where he stands on LGBT-related issues.

"We tried to set up a table outside the makeshift amphitheater" where Schwarzenegger was holding a rally last Saturday, Leno said. Both security personnel from the actor's campaign and hotel staff told Leno to leave, and they threatened to call police. Ultimately, Leno was able to distribute about 1,000 flyers asking delegates and others present to demand Schwarzenegger take a stand on various gay legislation, including domestic partner rights and education bills.

"I told them, 'I'm not doing anything wrong,'" Leno said, adding that television news cameras showed up to see what was happen-

ing. "Finally they backed down."

Last month, Leno issued a letter to Schwarzenegger that also asked for his position on major LGBT-related issues. To date, the candidate has not responded. Schwarzenegger's campaign also did not respond to a telephone message from the B.A.R. seeking comment.

Curiously, Leno said that when he went into the Airport Marriott Hotel to grab a sandwich before heading to the Democratic meeting elsewhere in L.A., hotel personnel tried to tell him the bill had been "taken care of." But Leno was unimpressed.

"I didn't accept the free lunch." ▼

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## STATEMENT FILE 0265088-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Don Quiques Restaurant, 1550 Howard Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Milton Enrique Avila and Hilda Yesenia Duarte. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/06/2003.

SEPT. 11, 18, 25, OCT. 2, 2003

## STATEMENT FILE 0269756-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: HomeMarkit, 1326 Cabrillo Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94118. This business is conducted by an individual signed Mark Andrew Cecil. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/08/2003.

SEPT. 18, 25, OCT. 2, 9, 2003

## STATEMENT FILE 0269891-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Quarter Moon Press, 769 Cole Street #2, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Clinton Seiler. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/12/2003.

SEPT. 18, 25, OCT. 2, 9, 2003

## STATEMENT FILE 0269701-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: San Francisco Fish Company, 1 Ferry Building Suite 31, San Francisco, Ca. 94111. This business is conducted by an individual signed Allen Kuenn. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/05/2003.

SEPT. 18, 25, OCT. 2, 9, 2003

## STATEMENT FILE 0269485-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Selinger & Associates Appraisal, 1865 Powell Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94133. This business is conducted by an individual signed Matthew Che Selinger. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/27/2003.

SEPT. 18, 25, OCT. 2, 9, 2003

## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

FILE NO CNC-03-540940

In the Matter of the Application of Benjamin Michael Kiely For change of Name. The application of Benjamin Michael Kiely for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Benjamin Michael Kiely has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Nicholas Michael Kiely Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 11th day of December at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

SEPT. 18, 25, OCT. 2, 9, 2003

## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

FILE NO CNC-03-540938

In the Matter of the Application of Steven Melbourne Tanape For change of Name. The application of Steven Melbourne Tanape for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Steven Melbourne Tanape has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Lee Ann Rose Tanape Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 11th day of December at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

SEPT. 18, 25, OCT. 2, 9, 2003

## Clean needle bill

page 1

His decision could be made any day now," wrote Hinman, emphasizing the urgency to act expeditiously.

[On Wednesday morning, Davis spokesman Russ Lopez said that the governor has yet to take a position on the bill, adding it was unclear if the amendments to the measure had adequately addressed the governor's previous concerns. At issue is whether passage of the bill would take away county health officials' ability to work one on one with injection drug users, Lopez said.

"The governor vetoed the bill last year because it would take away authority the counties now have," said Lopez, who added the bill needs to be signed into law by October 12, not the 17. "He understands the AIDS community's concerns but he's got to look at the larger picture."

Opponents of the bill contend the measure is legitimizing drug use. But supporters of the bill argue it does not encourage drug use. They argue it can be used as a step toward getting injection drug users into treatment programs.

"The science, the actual research, dispels the mythology around this issue. Doing things to encourage clean needle use does not increase needle injection forms of drug abuse," said Sue North, Vasconcellos's chief of staff. "They simply save lives.

John's basic premise is if someone decides to use drugs with a needle, they shouldn't die as a consequence."

According to the California Office of AIDS, 19 percent of all AIDS cases in California are linked to the sharing of contaminated syringes. The percentages are higher among women and people of color, with 37.3 percent of cumulative AIDS cases among women, 24.3 percent of cases among African Americans, and 22.4 percent of cases among Latinos linked to injection drug use.

There are also between 500,000 and 600,000 cases of hepatitis C in California and roughly 60 percent of those are attributable to dirty needles. According to the Agency for Health Care Research and Quality, the average annual cost for treating someone infected with HIV is \$20,000 to \$24,000. Much of this treatment cost is born by public agencies.

Under SB774, a licensed pharmacist would be able to sell hypodermic needles or syringes to a person without a prescription under specified conditions. It would end the requirement that a person properly establish his or her identity to the pharmacist in order to purchase a needle or syringe. It would end the current requirement that a pharmacist keep detailed records of nonprescription sales of hypodermic needles and syringes.

The bill would also authorize a person to possess up to 30 hypodermic needles or syringes if ac-

quired through an authorized source. And pharmacists would be required to hand out information about drug treatment programs with the syringes.

"The subtle message comes through to drug users that people are treating them as if they are functioning humans, and therefore, they tend to be more responsible in their drug use," said North. "If people are given an opportunity to get clean needles they will use clean needles. If you learn the pharmacist is not your enemy, then you are more likely to talk to that pharmacist about the abscence on your arm. It leads you to more responsible behavior."

Van Gorder said the bill is needed not only in towns and cities where no needle exchange programs exist, but also in counties such as San Francisco that do have established programs.

"It does make it easier for these people living in counties that don't have exchange programs to have access. And there are clearly some injection drug users who won't go to needle exchange sites to get clean needles," said Van Gorder. "I think there are injection drug users who don't perceive themselves as being addicts but do perceive people who go to exchange programs to be addicts and would prefer not to mix. Some users from a higher socioeconomic status don't want to go mix with users they see as being poorer and of lesser social status. They would be more inclined to go to a pharmacy." ▼



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## LEGAL NOTICES

## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO CNC-03-540917

In the Matter of the Application of Syuzan Igoirena Volynskaya and Viktor Daniel Igoirech Volynskiy For change of Name. The application of Syuzan Igoirena Volynskaya and Viktor Daniel Igoirech Volynskiy for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Syuzan Igoirena Volynskaya and Viktor Daniel Igoirech Volynskiy has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Susan Volinski and Daniel Volinski. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 20th day of November at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. SEPT. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0269741-00 The following person(s) are doing business as: Tasty Curry. 1375- 9th Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94121. This business is conducted by an individual signed Iliesiu-Han. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/08/2003. SEPT. 11, 18, 25, OCT. 2, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0269550-00 The following person(s) are doing business as: San Francisco Literary Tours. 2355 Leavenworth Street #101, San Francisco, Ca. 94133. This business is conducted by an individual signed Scott Lettieri. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/29/2003. SEPT. 11, 18, 25, OCT. 2, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0269608-00 The following person(s) are doing business as: San Francisco Center For The Book. 300 DeHaro Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by a Non-Profit Corporation signed Kathy Barr, Executive Director. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on March 1, 1996. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/03/2003. SEPT. 11, 18, 25, OCT. 2, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0268999-00 The following person(s) are doing business as: Gucci. 80 Canyon Drive, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by a individual signed Timothy John O'Neill. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on August 07, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/07/2003. SEPT. 11, 18, 25, OCT. 2, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0269542-00 The following person(s) are doing business as: Trenton & Co. 555 De Haro Street #222, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by a individual signed Mathias Trent. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on August 28, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/28/2003. SEPT. 11, 18, 25, OCT. 2, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0269597-00 The following person(s) are doing business as: Mi Lindo Yucatan. 401 Valencia Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by a individual signed Jorge A. Góngora. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/02/2003. SEPT. 11, 18, 25, OCT. 2, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0269593-00 The following person(s) are doing business as: Emile's Towing. 2230- 22nd Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94116. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Emile Ferreboeuf and Marie Laure Ferreboeuf. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on September 02, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 09/02/2003. SEPT. 11, 18, 25, OCT. 2, 2003

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is: Avila, Milton Enrique and Duarte, Hilda Yesenia. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at: 185 Berry Street, suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 1550 Howard Street San Francisco, Ca. 94103. Type of license Applied for: 41-ON SALE BEER AND WINE EATING PLACE SEPT. 11, 18, 25, 2003

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## LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE 0269320-00 The following person(s) are doing business as: Evendaat. 37 Moss Street Apt. #A, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed David A. Caraker and Nathaniel U. Weber. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/20/2003. AUG. 28, SEPT. 4, 11, 18, 2003


STATEMENT FILE 0268830-00 The following person(s) are doing business as: Caprock Drill Design. 2392 48th Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94116. This business is conducted by an individual signed John F. Tosick. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on August 01, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/31/2003. AUG. 28, SEPT. 4, 11, 18, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0269417-00 The following person(s) are doing business as: Personal Touch Electrology. 4105 19th Street @ Castro, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Terri Allie Long. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on August 25, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/25/2003. AUG. 28, SEPT. 4, 11, 18, 2003

STATEMENT FILE 0269387-00 The following person(s) are doing business as: Caprock Drill Design. 2049 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94115. This business is conducted by an individual signed Brian Keith Leadingham. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on August 01, 2003. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 08/22/2003. SEPT. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2003



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Cool-hand 'Flute'  
SF Opera's 'Magic Flute'  
in a revived production.  
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Norton utilities  
British comic Graham  
Norton at the Alcazar.  
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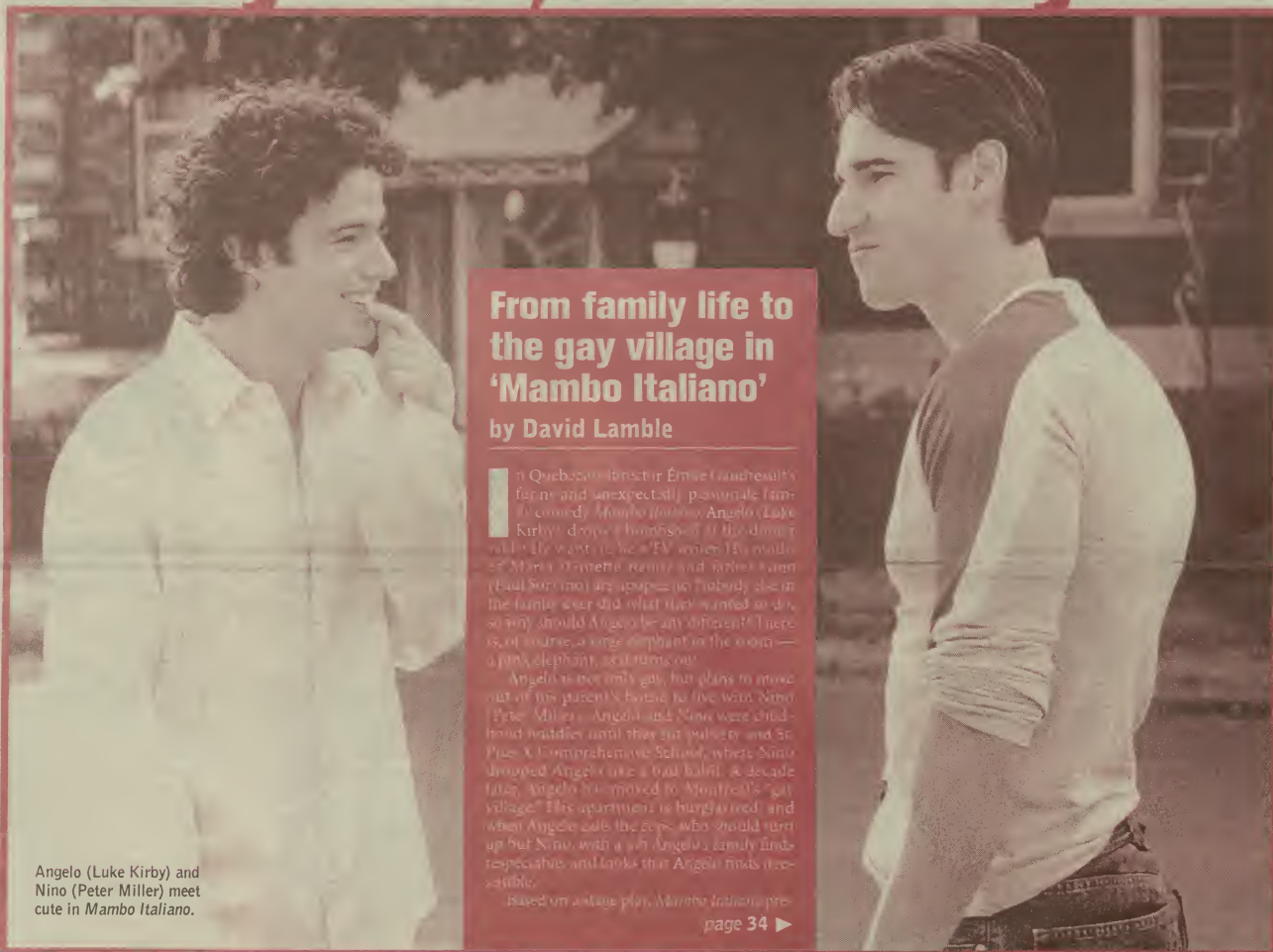


# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 33 • No. 38 • 18 September 2003

## Gay love, Italian-style



### From family life to the gay village in 'Mambo Italiano'

by David Lamble

In Quebecer director Emile Gaudreault's funny and unexpectedly passionate family comedy *Mambo Italiano*, Angelo (Luke Kirby) drops a bombshell at his dinner with the warty, to-be-a-TV-writer father (Maurice Demeo) and mother (Nina Garcia) who are up to no good: He's gay. In the family, everybody did what they wanted to do, so why should Angelo be any different? There is, of course, a large elephant in the room—a pink elephant, as it turns out.

Angelo is not only gay, but plans to move out of his parent's house to live with Nino (Peter Miller). Angelo and Nino were childhood buddies until they hit puberty and St. Pius X Comprehensive School, where Nino dropped Angelo like a bad habit. A decade later, Angelo has moved to Montreal's "gay village." This apartment is burglarized, and when Angelo calls the cops, who should turn up but Nino, with a son Angelo's family finds respectable and looks that Angelo finds irresistible.

Based on a stage play, *Mambo Italiano* pre-  
page 34 ►

Angelo (Luke Kirby) and Nino (Peter Miller) meet cute in *Mambo Italiano*.

## Finding the right balance

by Stephanie von Buchau

### The importance of being Mark Morris

When I fell in love with Mark Morris, he was a tall, muscular, 29-year-old modern dancer, with massive thighs you wanted to be crushed by; dark, shoulder-length ringlets; and piercing green eyes. He also had the best balances in modern dance. In his fabulous 1984 East Indian solo, "O Rangasayee," Morris reared back, eyes rolling like a wild stallion, and held a fierce, one-legged pose for what seemed like forever. He was simply gorgeous to look at, and looking at gorgeous dancers is at least half the fun.

Last weekend, at Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall, Morris unveiled his latest solo work, commissioned by Cal Performances. It was

made "in honor of the divine Mr. Harrison," that is, the late composer Lou Harrison. The eponymous music is "Serenade," Harrison's guitar solo with subtle percussion. Guitarist (in this case the excellent Oren Fader) and percussionist (Stefan Schatz) sit on stage left (yes, Virginia, another on-stage guitar ballet), and Morris dances the five movements beside them.

He is no longer a beautiful youth; in fact, at 47, he looks rather matronly. He's paunchy, sweats like a boxer, and his hair is graying, but his eyes still roll wildly, imparting that same exciting sense of danger and very-sure-of-itself masculinity. He still has the best balances in modern dance. He's also the most musical of dancers and choreographers, daring here to perform with finger symbols and castanets. His final exit, head tilted back arrogantly, with the trill of castanets following him, figuratively sucks the air off the stage.

I loved "Serenade" and loved Morris  
page 31 ►



Company members of Mark Morris Dance Group perform *Grand Duo*.

Marc Royce

SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS

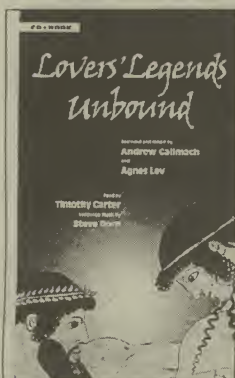


# What would Ganymede do?

Finding gay love in Ancient Greek myth and new Latin cinema

by Roberto Friedman

Anyone who's spent any time with the Classics knows that the Ancient Greek myths overflow with the beautiful bounties of homo man-love. In them you'll find male-male attraction across gods-and-mortals lines (Zeus & Ganymede, Apollo & Hyacinth), butch hottie-bonding amidst the fires of battle (Hercules & Hylas, Achilles & Patrocles), and good old self-love (Narcissus) — and these are just the headliners.



Now a charming little book, *Lovers' Legends Unbound*, explores these same-sex sagas, "restored and retold" by Andrew Calimach and Agnes Lev, and, on accompanying CD, read by actor Timothy Carter with incidental music by Steve Gorn.

The myths are recounted in an easy, vernacular style so far from Classical Greek as to be somewhat giggle-producing. "Ganymede was the most handsome born of the race of men, and the more Zeus looked at

him, the hotter he burned for him." Oooh, Daddy! "Finally, hopelessly in love with the young Trojan and sick of his wife Hera's jealous rages, Zeus decided to act." Cue thunder-claps.

Re the unsurpassed beauty of the youth Narcissus, "all who saw him were stunned. His mother, troubled about what Fate might hold store for her son, took him to the seer Tiresias, and asked, 'Will my boy live to see old age?' Yes, but only if he never knows himself," replied the diviner, "being the jaded old queen that he was. Info at [haidukpress.com](http://haidukpress.com).

## Rabbit alert

For lovers of good old-fashioned brawls in the pages of the British press (we change our plea to guilty), the Tracy Emin/Philip Hensher feud took an intriguing twist last week, when the *Spectator* was forced to unreservedly withdraw the allegation that artist Emin was sending china Peter Rabbit figurines to pressie Hensher in the post.

The [UK] *Guardian* reported that "Hensher had raised the possibility [in print] that Emin was behind a flurry of unsolicited junk mail and items ranging from incontinence pads to the Beatrix Potter character addressed to a Miss Phyllis Henshaw."

"Someone, clearly, was deliberately persecuting me with rabbits in knickerbockers," Hensher wrote in the *Spectator*, adding that the feminization of his name was a common insult to homosexuals.

We know, Mary.



Natives of Juchit'an, *Queer Paradise*, part of Cine Accion's Cine Latino festival.

## Big gay world

There's a program in Cine Accion's *Cine Latino* festival of special interest to gay audiences. *Queer Temple Voices* plays Sat., Sept. 20, 9 p.m., at the Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th Street. Curator Alfonso Moret's film/video program visits both the Bay Area and Mexico to examine struggles with gender identity, mixed-race identities, sexism and homophobia. Following, some of the highlights.

*Juchit'an, Queer Paradise* The Mexican village of Juchit'an, near the border with Guatemala, is home to the Zapotec indigenous people, who have shown remarkable tolerance towards homosexuals. According to folklore (we love this), God gave Vicente Ferrer, the patron Saint of Juchit'an, a bagful of queers. Everywhere he traveled in Colombia, Central America, and Guatemala, he left behind a queer. In Juchit'an, however, his bag tore open, and all the queers fell out at once. (Patricio Henriquez, director, Canada, '02)

Isn't It Obvious? At a party in

Newark, CA, a blue-collar suburb of San Francisco, a 17-year-old youth named Gwen Araujo was confronted by four angry men. They demanded to know if she was a man or a woman. How could she explain about herself in terms they would understand? She replied, "Isn't it obvious?" They allegedly beat her to death and disposed of her body. This film is an impassioned plea for acceptance of gender-different people. (Shelly Prevost, director, US, '02)

Simone's 24 tells the story of a young queer woman of color, and her struggles, growth, and realizations through 24 hours of a typical day. (Jeanette Aguilar, director, US, '02)

Firepussy Maria, a Latina poet/pyromaniac, flees to Mexico, where she meets a seductive but mysterious stranger who may hold the key to unlocking her past. (Laurel Almerinda, director, US, 2002) Complete film fest schedule at [cineaccion.com](http://cineaccion.com).

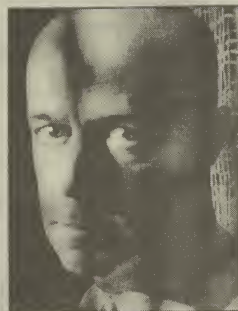
## 3-D mentions

All over but for the shouting at *The World 3-D Film Expo* now playing at the Egyptian Theatre in LA are such classics of triple dimension as *Phantom of the Rue Morgue* ("Can it be human?") and *Cat-Women of the Moon* (Sonny Tufts, Victor Jory, Marie Windsor: What a cast!) But among the spectacles still to come before expo's end on Sunday, Sept. 21: Howard Hughes presents Jane Russell in *The French Line* ("I.R. in 3-D — Need we say more?"); Rita Hayworth and José Ferrer in *Miss Sadie Thompson* ("She's the only one with a kiss of flame!") Gotta lay off those jalapeño chips, girl.

Personally, we're most intrigued by *The Three Stooges'* sole venture in the 3-D medium, *Pardon My Backfire*. Info at [3dfilmfest.com](http://3dfilmfest.com).

In more conventional, 2-D media (but with depth of field, we hope), *Dreaming Awake*, a new video by former YBCA director John R. Killacky, will play the *Independent Exposure* screening series on Mon., Sept. 29, at 111 Minna Gallery in downtown SF. Admission is \$5. Info at [microcinema.com](http://microcinema.com).

Photographer Greg Day will be signing copies of his new book *Pacific Kouro: Photographs of Men Along the California Coast*



John Killacky in *Dreaming Awake*

(Janssen) at A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St., on Sat., Sept. 27, at 1 p.m. Most of the book's images were taken in San Francisco since 1998; models include Fabrice, Cole Tucker, and Frank Parker. These are men of many dimensions.



Fabrice at Joshua Tree, Greg Day

## In like Flynt

Okay, at first we were internally conflicted about the California recall, seeing it as the blatant right-wing power grab that it is. But then the sheer carnival aspect of it captivated us, having lived in California 20 long years now, and thus attuned to the circus that is public life in the Golden State.

But, after a promising start out of the gate, the candidate who captured our heart, *Hustler* publisher Larry Flynt, faltered. Larry put the pro in progressive: he was pro-legalization of pot, pro-legalization of prostitution, and pro-taxation of both these vast quadrants of the underground economy, which would go a long way towards pro-actively closing the deficit. To top it all off, Flynt worked for the sex-positive press.

But the self-described "smut-peddler who cares" has barely broken into the polls, bumper. If diminutive Hollywood gentleman Gary Coleman could get it together for the electoral circus, why not Flynt? Maybe we'll write in Zonker Harris instead.

## Frenched, Franked

All we know we learned from *Page Six*: The *NY Post*'s classic gossip column reported this week that up-and-coming young actress Heather Matarazzo (*Welcome to the Dollhouse*) was seen French-kissing another young woman at the f.c.u.k. fragrance launch at LQ on Lexington Avenue. Well, fuck us!

Also according to the *Post*, "Rep. Barney Frank's (D-MA) boyfriend doesn't want to be known as merely his friend." Sergio Pombo penned an e-mail to *The Hill* newspaper columnist Bill Thomas saying, "After five years of dating Barney, I believe you should upgrade my status from a friend to either partner or spouse." Does Barney get any say in the matter, or is it all up to the press? A dangerous precedent. ▼

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# A certain degree of magic

## Another trill on SF Opera's 'Magic Flute'

by Stephanie von Buchau

Mozart's *The Magic Flute* is a long opera, extended by spoken dialogue, that does not belong in an opera house the size of the War Memorial. This might explain why it wasn't performed there until 1950. Yet it's Mozart, without which we cannot live, and, when it is sung and conducted well — as it has been in the past — it's an enchanting evening in the theater. The music is fabulous; the drama entertaining; it even has lofty if occasionally misogynistic spiritual values.

San Francisco Opera's current revival of *Flute*, which opened Tuesday a week ago, was a let-down after the wonders of the opening night *Mother of Us All* (yes, possums, I know I'm in the minority on that; tough nuggies). But it was also, as several have pointed out, a lot better than the last *Magic Flute* in the Lotfi Mansouri regime. That starred a provincial Pamina and Sarastro, an inaudible Queen of the Night, a miscast Tamino, and a Papageno who obviously was trying — too hard — to save the evening. Charles Mackerras, usually a favorite in this repertory, was in the pit, probably wishing he were in London instead. Even the usually glowing David Hockney production looked old and tired.

This time around, the Hockney sets have been refurbished; Tom Munn's lighting helped them look fresh and lovely. Never mind that some of Hockney's costumes — especially those pants-and-belts-and-tunics things worn by chunky little guys like the Sarastro and Tamino — would only look good on the Oakland Athletics' stud pitchers. The funny menagerie and darling little boys (Michael Bennett, Bryan Jolly, Jordan King) in their flying boat help make this production a happy one.

Of course, we got it in the first place because SFO's financial troubles meant dumping the scheduled *Coq d'Or*, which put me, a major Rimsky Korsakov groupie, into a terminal funk. I still don't understand the fiscal thinking that jettisons new repertory for an expensive production of *The Barber of Seville*, an opera we hear all too often. Nor was SFO able to salvage most of the cast assigned to the Rimsky.

The only holdover, as far as I can tell, is the Sarastro, Georgian (Russia, not Southern US) basso Paata Burchuladze. Not heard here since the 1996 Civic Auditorium *Prince Igor*, Burchuladze was rumored to have lost his voice. Well, he hasn't. He still makes a huge, loud noise; he just can't sing any more. His two out-of-tune arias, the trio, and his hilariously awful Russian-accented German dialogue helped make the second act seem even longer than it is.

### Popp rocks

Distanced from that misery were the Tamino (Charles Castronovo, a former Merolini) and Queen of the Night (Suzanne Ramo, ditto, moving up from Papagena in the last *Flute*). He's a handsome if diminutive fellow who moves with authority and sings with forthright tone, but it has a harsh, metallic edge that seems more appropriate in other rep. Though Castronovo sings a lot of Mozart, anyone who thinks

this is the way Tamino should sound has never heard Wunderlich, Gedda or Burrows in the role. Ramo has all the staccato clockwork for the Queen's two socko pieces, and she was both loud and mean enough, so I'm not sure why she left me cold. As someone said, "When did you hear anybody better?" How about the late Lucia Popp?

I do know, however, that I've heard better Paminas than Ana Maria Martinez. This young Puerto Rican artist is a huge talent; I wonder if she'll be ready for Manon Lescaut when SFO finally gets around to Puccini's early romance. She sang strongly and occasionally with soft head tones, but the quality of the sound is much too edgy for my taste in Mozart. One doesn't necessarily want to be the oldest elephant in the pack, but when your Paminas have been Pilar Lorengar (in the Met's Chagall production), Margaret Price (who debuted here the same night as Stuart Burrows; we

thought we'd died and gone to heaven), Kiri Te Kanawa and, best of all, Ruth Ann Swenson, your ears have a taste for more steadily pellucid singing than Martinez produced.

As is often the case in *Magic Flute*, Papageno (Johannes Martin Kraenzle) stole the show. Fortunately not a hambone like the late Geraint Evans, nor a hard-worker like the last birdcatcher here, Kraenzle eased into the role, making Papageno seem much more real than the usual Hanswurst. He needs to vary his tone a bit; "Ein Maedchen oder Weibchen" went on forever. His Papagena (Marnie Breckenridge) was cute.

Conductor Oleg Caetani was the glue holding the evening together. Hired for *Coq d'Or* (boo-hoo; I'm still sniffing on my keyboard), he proved an old-fashioned, big-band Mozartian, but with a modern sensibility. The overture started as if Klemperer were in the pit, yet tempos were on the quick side. Caetani differ-



Suzanne Ramo is the Queen of the Night: moving on up.

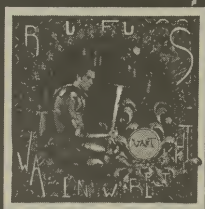
entiated neatly between the comic and the serious; he accompanied sensitively; and the orchestra — especially the solo flute, wood-

winds and reduced strings — played for him beautifully. More, please, preferably something Russian. ▼

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# Caught 'Red-Handed'

## Gay comic Graham Norton at the Alcazar

by Richard Dodds

Graham Norton doesn't think his talk show caused the Liza Minnelli/David Gest split. Not that he doesn't warm to the idea. "I'd like to think," he said, "that a little bit of pop culture exploded on my show."

If it was an explosion, the fuse was lit when Gest talked about how "hugely fat" Liza had become the previous year. Some gossip columns said that was too much for Minnelli. "I really don't think it was," said Norton, who was a guest at the Minnelli-Gest meganuptials way back in 2002. "But I like the idea. I really do."

Quirky things do happen on Norton's show, taped in London for Britain's Ch. 4 and seen in the US on BBC America. On one memorable broadcast, the splashy gay Norton introduced

Cher by phone to an avid fan with a website, displayed on air, illustrating his sexual obsession with big balloons. Cher looked slightly horrified at the thought of talking to Buster, the balloon guy, but she relaxed once he began Cher-fan hyperventilating.

Although BBC America reaches a relatively small audience, it's been enough for Norton to get his foot in the American door. He was speaking from Chicago prior to arriving in SF as part of his three-city tour with *Red-Handed*, a standup comedy act at the Alcazar Theatre through Saturday.

Being on BBC America, with its august connotations, gives Norton a kind of cache that he doesn't have back home. "The show is a lot cooler here than it ever was in Britain," Norton said. "Here it's like this culty thing, and people feel like they've discovered it. They don't understand that we just shit it out every week."

But don't head to the Alcazar

expecting the television show, Norton said. "They'll be sitting there for some time waiting for the amusing celebrity to come round the corner. That ain't gonna happen. It's just me. The other thing is that, as disgusting as the television show is, this is rudier. It's viler."

Some examples of rudier and viler, please? "Well, I do a whole big thing about gay personal ads. But I read the British ones. They are as disgusting as the American ones, but just seem a bit chirpy."

"And we normally go into some sort of phone-sex thing. Sometimes it works, and sometimes it doesn't. In Chicago, honest to God, you need a university degree to have a wank on the phone. I'm sure there'll be a simpler system in San Francisco."

Back in Britain, he begins a new season of his five-a-week show next month before soon returning to the States to tape a week of programs in Los Angeles. "I'd like to work more over here," he said, "but I don't know how big a pact you need to make with the devil to do that. It's still something I want to do, but I wonder now if it will ever happen."

He sees his current standup gigs as much about fun challenges as career advancement. "It's high pressure for the hour and half you're on stage, because you're living on your wits, but in terms of a career it's not very high pressure. Even if I have the worst time in my life, I can go home and nobody will know about it."

The Irish-born Norton, briefly a teen member of a continuing SF commune, credibly claims to have nothing that can be called a career plan. "I exceeded my ambition quite a few years back," he said. "Now everything is, as they say in Norway, butter on bacon."

Tickets for *Graham Norton: Red-Handed*, at the Alcazar through Sept. 20, are available at [cityboxoffice.com](http://cityboxoffice.com) or by calling 441-4042.



Norton's show is 'this culty thing.'

musical, actually considered racially progressive in its day. Much too progressive for Hollywood, which didn't commit it to film until 1969 despite a score that includes "Old Devil Moon," "How Are Things in Glocca Mora," "Look to the Rainbow," and several more pop standards.

Set in the fictional state of Missitucky, the musical tells of the spirited battle between an Irishman and a leprechaun for a pot of gold. Also, this Irishman has a lovely daughter, and she and Rainbow Valley's leading man soon become an item. And there's an old-school Southern politician who gets his comeuppance when somehow, magically, he turns black (and creates revival problems).

Michael Patrick Gaffney is playing the wily Finian McLoneran, Marsha Mercant is his comely daughter Sharon, and Peter Sroka is Og the libidinous Leprechaun. Bonnie Hellman is directing the concert-style production, with musical direction by David Dobrusky.

For ticket info, call 978-2782 or go to [42ndstreetmoon.org](http://42ndstreetmoon.org).

### Political poet

A new one-man play about poet Federico García Lorca, murdered during the Spanish Civil War for being red and queer, will have its premiere Oct. 5 at the Actors Theater of San Francisco. *Blood Poet Lorca!* is the creation of SF writer-performer Luis Oropeza, who has spent a decade researching and working on the piece.

The play is set in 1938, when the Spanish Civil War was in high gear, and as Lorca awaits his anticipated assassination, he relives the events that have brought him to this juncture. "This is a time," Oropeza says, "for Latinos, queers, artists, the Left, and anyone who loves theater to celebrate the beliefs and the poetry of this 'poet of the people.'"

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Richard Dodds can be reached at [BARstage@aol.com](mailto:BARstage@aol.com).

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# Leonardo lives

## 'Notebooks' at Berkeley Repertory

by Richard Dodds

If Leonardo da Vinci had invented a time machine and traveled to 2003, what might he have made of Mary Zimmerman's performance piece based on his notebooks? After a few puzzled moments, his expansive mind probably would grasp the synergy between his musings and Zimmerman's illustrative theatrics.

At least, that's the impression of the original Renaissance man created by *The Notebooks of Leonardo da Vinci* at Berkeley Repertory Theatre. Through the jottings on thousands of loose pages produced between 1475 and 1519, and never intended for publication, Zimmerman and company have let a real man emerge from the myth, while reminding

next page ►

A scene from Mary Zimmerman's *The Notebooks of Leonardo da Vinci*.



# The strange case of Andrea Marcovicci

*Illuminating Frank Loesser at Plush Room*

by Robert Julian

There are few singers as physically appealing as Andrea Marcovicci, who opened last week at the Plush Room for a five-week run. On opening night, Marcovicci took the stage wearing a floor-length rose satin gown with a plunging neckline that accented her patrician features and glimmering jewelry to great effect. Her stage patter is charming, and her sincere respect for composer and lyricist Frank Loesser seems genuine. For the first four weeks of her Plush Room engagement, Marcovicci presents *If I Were a Bell*, a tribute to Loesser, concluding with a final week of shows dedicated to the songs of Cole Porter.

Intelligence is the hallmark of Marcovicci's work, and her Loesser evening traces the composer's life and career with just the right amount of historical fact separating the musical numbers. The evening opens with some of the obscure earlier works from Loesser's Tin Pan Alley days, including an amusing "Doesn't That Mean Anything to You," and then proceeds to the more famous songs he began to write during World War II. "Hamlet" and "Love Isn't Born, It's Made" were written for Betty Hutton and Ann Sheridan, respectively, and Marcovicci delivers these two comic gems with particular relish.



Intelligence is the hallmark of Marcovicci's tribute show *If I Were a Bell*.

pop chanteuse, then, with no warning, jumps to an operatic bel canto to finish the phrase. These leaps of coloratura caprice happen most frequently on the high notes, and they happen many

the lyric or the singer very well. Quiet ballads like "Spring Will Be a Little Late This Year" and "Heart & Soul" are not moving, and "I Believe in You" does not inspire.

With the capable support of bassist Tim Emmons and pianist/musical director Shelly Markham, Marcovicci prevails because of her looks, intelligence and charm. Musically, she recalls no one as much as the late operatic soprano Patrice Munsel. For some reason, Ed Sullivan took a special liking to Munsel, and in the '60s heyday of *The Ed Sullivan Show*, she was a frequent guest. But this Metropolitan Opera diva would always show up trilling some ditty from the latest Broadway musical as if it were "Sempre Libera." This awkward collision of musical styles and genres worked no better for Munsel than it does for Marcovicci. ▼

**These leaps of coloratura caprice happen most frequently on the high notes, and they happen many times in every song. The results can border on parody.**

Throughout her show, Marcovicci commands the stage graciously and creates a wonderful rapport with the audience. She also has flawless diction. But then there is Marcovicci's voice, the most problematic element of her presentation. For reasons known only to the artist, Marcovicci has developed a singing style that might best be described as "bipolar." She sings part of a phrase with the standard delivery of a

times in every song. The resulting style, when applied to pop standards, creates a sort of cognitive dissonance that, at times, can border on parody. After all, arias are not on the bill.

When Marcovicci waxes operatic in her upper register, she pumps up the vibrato, and the notes go through her nose. This controlled but inelegant practice gives each song an emotional equivalency that does not serve

Andrea Marcovicci plays the Plush Room through October 11. For reservations, call 885-2800.

## Notebooks

◀ page 28

us of Leonardo's remarkable powers of observation and his unquenchable thirst for knowledge.

Zimmerman, a Tony winner last year for *Metamorphoses*, has edited and rearranged Leonardo's writings to suggest the hints of storylines, or least gathered themes. And then comes the Zimmerman magic, creating striking imagery to express the words in three dimensions. Leonardo's writings on perspective, for example, become a human tableau with each actor's face a focal point for taut strands of rope emanating toward the audience.

There isn't much that is directly personal in the notebooks, but

Zimmerman has seized upon Leonardo's comments about Giacomo, his young apprentice, to create the closest thing to a storyline. While the notebooks mainly note the misdeeds of Giacomo, whether hanging out with undesirable or compulsively stealing from Leonardo, Zimmerman suggests the sexual, affectionate, and combative nature of this long-running relationship.

The cast of eight takes turns speaking Leonardo's words, and several of the performers seem to have been chosen more for their physical strength and acrobatic skills than vocal abilities. But the verbal deficits are spread out, and this deficit is not a crippling one. Still, only Christopher Donahue, notably in the passages featuring an older Leonardo, suggests a

character of much nuance.

The production runs 90 minutes, just about the right length for a piece in which random ideas and images are the stars. One thing we definitely do learn about Leonardo da Vinci was his abhorrence of caged birds, which he regularly bought at the marketplace just to set them free. If Leonardo had any objections about this production, it would probably be the sight of the live birds flitting about in a small cage on stage. It's an odd contradiction in a display that otherwise seems in tune with the spirit of this great man. ▼

**The Notebooks of Leonardo da Vinci** will run at Berkeley Rep through Oct. 19. Tickets are \$43-\$55. Call (510) 647-2949.

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## September's soundtracks

'Thirteen,' 'Party Monster,' more on CD

by Gregg Shapiro

There are times when a movie and a soundtrack are so perfectly matched that it is hard to imagine one without the other. Such is the case with the soundtrack to *Thirteen* (Nettwerk



America), a mix of songs by somewhat obscure performers such as Kinky ("Mas"), The Folk Implosion ("Make It with the Beat") and MC 900 Ft. Jesus ("Killer Inside Me"). There are a couple of tracks by bands with openly queer members ("Super Bad Girl" by Iffy, and "Ivanka" by Imperial Teen), as well as a song by Liz Phair ("Explain it to Me"). Teenage artists such as Katy Rose and Orlando Brown are heard alongside the score by Mark (Devo) Mothersbaugh.

*Party Monster* (TVT Soundtrack), the music that fills the movie about the rise and fall of NYC club kid and party impresario Michael Alig, bridges the expanse between '80s electronic dance music and the Electroclash tunes of today. You may not realize how much songs such as Nina Hagen's "New York, New York," Stacey Q's "Two of Hearts," "Go!" by Tones On Tail, and ABC's "How To Be a Millionaire" have in common until you hear them in such close proximity with "Seven-

teen" by Ladytron, and "It Can't Come Quickly Enough" by Scissor Sisters. Whether you prefer your parties in a club with a cast of thousands, or in the comfort of your own home, this soundtrack is a party waiting to happen. *Monster* not included.

The soundtrack to *Freaky Friday* (Hollywood Records) opens with "Ultimate," a song by the movie's co-star Lindsay Lohan, which can be skipped without guilt. More entertaining are covers of well-known songs including "Happy Together" by Simple Plan, "What I Like About You" by Lillix, and the late Joey Ramone's interpretation of "What a Wonderful World."

The clock is ticking on Brittany Murphy's questionable acting career, and her latest dud, *Uptown Girls*, ought to signal that the end is near. The soundtrack (Nettwerk) finds ubiquitous religious rocker Leigh Nash singing, "It's a Charmed Life." Yes, I'm sure it is. More surprising are contributions by the brilliant Erin McKeown, fluffy club act Cooler Kids, and new singer/songwriter Toby Lightman.

Contributions from Foo Fighters and The Wallflowers can't save the soundtrack to *American Wedding* (Universal) from being just another thrown-together collection of faux punk-rock tunes. But what did you expect?

Music from *How To Deal* (Capitol) features songs by Liz Phair and The Donnas, and a cou-

ple of Beth Orton tunes (including her cover of Cat Stevens' "Wild World"), "Do You Realize" by The Flaming Lips, and "Sur-render" by Echo.

Bob Dylan acts in the movie *Masked and Anonymous* alongside Jessica Lange, Jeff Bridges, Angela Bassett, John Goodman, Penelope Cruz and others. He wrote 12 of the 14 songs on the soundtrack (Columbia/Sony Music Soundtrack) and performs four of them himself. The remaining renditions of Dylan's songs are by Sophie Zelmani, Los Lobos, the Dixie Hummingbirds, and others.

The story of Clam Dandy, a fictional all-girl rock band in late-'80s LA, *Prey for Rock & Roll* stars Gina Gershon and Lori Petty. The soundtrack (Hybrid) was produced by Stephen (Hedwig and the Angry Inch) Trask, and features Gershon on lead vocals, backed up by Trask, Gina Volpe (Lunachicks), Sara Lee (B-52's), Samantha Maloney (Hole) and the movie's co-writer, Cheri Love-dog. Gershon sounds like Chrissie Hynde on "Stupidstar," a song she co-wrote with queer songwriter Linda (Four Non Blondes) Perry.

Randy Newman temporarily steps away from his Disney soundtrack affiliation for the *Seabiscuit* soundtrack (Decca). On par with his finest soundtrack work, Newman captures the majesty and the emotions of this underdog (or should I say under-horse) story. ▼

They came  
from the '70s

Back to the far-out decade

by Gregg Shapiro

Most Fleetwood Mac fans probably came to the band 10 years into its existence. With *Rumors*, the 1977 album that solidified the roles of Stevie Nicks and Lindsey Buckingham (who first appeared on the self-titled 1975 Fleetwood Mac disc), the Mac went American mainstream, shedding some of its British blues pretensions, and achieved multi-platinum status. Success can be hard to take, and for the last 25 years, the band has been wrestling with that demon. The latest FM formation is a quartet (Nicks, Buckingham, and original co-founders Mick Fleetwood and John McVie), with Nicks and Buckingham reuniting as the band's driving force. One look at the *Say You Will* (Reprise) album cover — Nicks and Buckingham as the focus in the center, flanked by Fleetwood and McVie — and you get the whole story. The focus of the album pretty much breaks down into the Nicks songs (rhythmic pop numbers like the title track, and mystically charged exercises such as "Il-lume/9-11") and Buckingham's accessible and more experimental compositions, all of which are extensions of their solo work.

During those same mid-'70s years, singer/songwriter Phoebe

Snow was wooing listeners with her stunning vocal abilities and songwriting gifts. Snow probably remains best-known for her chart-topping single "Poetry Man," but she also wrote and sang other sensational songs, such as "Two Fisted Love" and "Something Real." Snow's singular interpretations of songs by Paul Simon, Stephen Bishop, Paul McCartney, and the Gershwins are virtually unparalleled. *Natural Wonder* (Eagle) is Snow's first studio album in five years, and the first album to include original material in 14 years. Enlightenment and spirituality are nothing new to this diva, who has lent her pipes to the Sisters of Glory gospel ensemble and the songs on this album continue this exploration. Snow does two covers, a ballad reading of the Motown classic "Baby, I Need Your Loving," and a dramatic interpretation of Live's tune "Lightning Crashes."

Steely Dan have also returned this year with a new album, *Everything Must Go* (Reprise). With a sound so distinctive, Steely Dan doesn't divert much from the pop/jazz/funk formula that has been their trademark for more than 30 years. The disc includes the first-ever lead vocal by Steely Dan's own Walter Becker, on the album's bouncy centerpiece, "Slang of Ages." ▼



## ◀ Arts cover

## String break

I'm probably going on about "Serenade" because the other new piece on this program of short works was something of a bust. We won't know, of course, until we see it again, but "All Fours" started with an unfortunate incident from which it never recovered. The pick-up string quartet that travels



Mark Morris Dance Group also performed *L'Allegro...* in Berkeley.

The crux of "All Fours" lies in the gender pairings of the middle three movements. In "Prestissimo," Craig Bisecker and Bradon McDonald dance furiously, mostly in side-by-side unisons, except there is something going on between them that reminded me of the non-touching, homosexual sex scene in *Bent*. When they suddenly acquire a pair of female partners (Marjorie Folkman and

The short program opened with the goofy "Going Away Party," to hilarious music of Bob Wil and His Texas Playboys, and closed with the vibrant kinetics of Harrison's "Grand Duo" (beautifully played by violinist Jonathan Gandelman and pianist Ilan Rechtman). Susan Ruddle's glowing, Asian-inspired costumes helped Morris' bare-chested male dancers, every one a 10, look as scrumptious as I've ever seen them. ▼

- The Daily Telegraph

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# Dandy Warhols

by Glen Helfand

*I Bought Andy Warhol*  
by Richard Polsky  
(Harry N. Abrams, \$24.95)

There's a real art to twisting and appropriating movie titles. The porn business does it best, by coming up with fabulous riffs like *Boobarella* or the Matthew Barney-meets-Steven Spielberg E.T.: *The Extra Testicle*.

While not exactly a salacious volume, Richard Polsky scores clever points with his reference to the Valerie Solanis biopic in the title of his tales in the art trade. He makes sly reference to the ways in which buying and selling art is a sycophantic sport — though it's not always clear that Polsky's aware of that dynamic.

*I Bought Andy Warhol* is an entertaining selective autobiography, in which San Francisco-based private art dealer Polsky tracks his

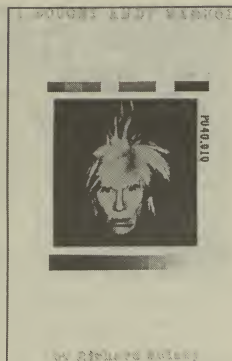
career-long quest to acquire his very own Warhol painting. "So many paintings of such great worth had passed through my hands, and yet none of them had actually belonged to me," he writes in his introduction. He pens something between lessons in working the art market (and its rollercoaster from an '80s high point to a dismal early-'90s recession) and a personal shopping diary. Prized artworks enter his personal collection but don't always stay there, for reasons of fun and profit.

The book traces Polsky's mild adventures in the art trade, offering life lessons in modern art history and dealing in pictures, which involves a lot of flights between New York and Los Angeles. He brings us right into the social and business aspects of big-ticket modern sales at Sotheby's and Christie's, something that Polsky, author of a series of well-received art auction price-guides, has some familiarity with. He flaunts the breadth of his knowledge by frequently veering off the Warhol path and discussing the career positioning of Sean Scully and the inside scoop on the Sam Francis estate.

The most surprising revelation, however, is Polsky's character. He comes across in this first-person narrative not as debonair dealer or sensitive aesthete, but as nebbish and noodge. This is a guy whose friends remind him that his favorite Armani suit, which he wears to black-tie auction events, is only A/X. Even more amusing is the boastful tale of an art pilgrimage to Jackson Pollock's studio. While on a guided tour, Polsky sneaks into the great artist's off-limits private bathroom to take a dump. He recalls: "Not bothering to switch on the light, I pulled my pants down and lowered myself onto the throne. I was hoping that through osmosis some of Pollock's greatness might be transferred to me." Can't take him anywhere!

## Uncouth capers

Sometimes he seems to knowingly play with being uncouth.



When trying to get a prized Warhol painting from Vincent Fremont, the chilly sales agent for the artist's estate, Polsky razes him on the phone by greeting him as "Vinny." Fremont is not amused. But Polsky is. He succeeds in business and in the narrative in spite of himself. If he's a pestering wheeler-dealer, at least he has some sense of humor about the identity. He doesn't, however, get very introspective or revealing in his writing. He glosses over how a business partnership with his wife (a relationship he only casually acknowledges) eventually destroyed his marriage, but his description of the career horror of colleagues finding out he's staying at a budget hotel during an art fair is palpable.

More often, Polsky's plain-spoken demeanor works in his favor. In depicting an art world where dealers are often snooty — his description of bringing clients to meet with Mary Boone is a portrait of thinly veiled bitchery — Polsky's nerdy behavior is refreshingly down to earth. He's the everyman who manages to be invited to lunch with high-powered dealers John Berggruen and Jim Corcoran at San Francisco's Le Central, and then describes how they taunt him by rolling dice to see who pays the \$300 tab. Those wild, crazy art guys!

Most of the tales are gentle jabs at art-world chicanery, the extras that make the milieu worth visiting. He recalls the oh-so-grand opening of Pace Gallery's Beverly Hills outpost, a white carpet affair with all-you-can-eat designer sushi. Polsky describes the vision of gallerist/movie producer Arne Glimcher making a dramatic entrance holding the hand of artist/movie director Julian Schnabel. "The two appeared to be in love, and they were — with themselves," Polsky quips. The bottom line here is that Polsky loves Warhol, especially the "fright wig" painting he ultimately acquires, and it's an enduring devotion that keeps us interested in his story. ▼

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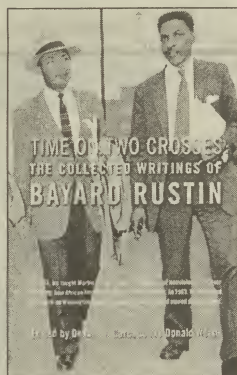
by Jim Nawrocki

*Time on Two Crosses: The Collected Writings of Bayard Rustin*  
edited by Devon W. Carbado and Donald Weise (Cleis Press, \$16.95)

This past August marked the 40th anniversary of Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech at the historic civil rights March on Washington. King is rightly hailed as the charismatic visionary who gave the March, and indeed the civil rights movement, its defining metaphors. But there is one man who worked behind the scenes advising King, organizing the March, and working for the cause tirelessly despite being hounded, from both outside of and within the movement, for his ideology and his homosexuality. That man was Bayard Rustin, and his lifetime of service in the cause of human rights has never received due recognition.

That may be changing. Rustin's life is the subject of a documentary, *Brother Outsider: The Life of Bayard Rustin*, which recently aired on public television stations across the country. He has been the subject of a respected biography, and his life has even inspired a stage play. *Time on Two Crosses: The Collected Writings of Bayard Rustin* is the first book that brings together writings from Rustin's 40-year career as a social activist. The book's title comes from a 1987 interview with Rustin, but it's also a deliberate evocation of *Time on the Cross*, Robert Fogel and Stanley Engerman's controversial 1974 study of American slavery. It's an eminently appropriate title, given Rustin's struggles in the fight for both racial equality and sexual freedom.

Rustin had the misfortune of living and working as an openly gay man at a time in American



history when such boldness was not rewarded. This fact, in addition to Rustin's race, his conscientious objection to the war, and his socialist beliefs, singled him out for persecution on many fronts. Surprisingly, many of those attacks came from other black leaders in the civil rights movement, who saw Rustin as a liability. Although King himself was disinclined to make much of Rustin's sexuality, he nevertheless had to answer to the larger voice of the movement, and too many people had too many misgivings about Rustin for King to allow him a place of prominence. Though Rustin was pictured as one of the March's organizers on a 1963 *Life* magazine cover, his influence within the movement was weakened by those who opposed him.

One of the most heroic aspects of Rustin's life is that he was not defined by one movement or cause, but by the general struggle for human rights. He worked with energy and passion for a number of oppressed groups, such as the American Japanese who were placed in internment camps by the US Government during World

next page ►



# Lieder of the pack

Baritone Dietrich Henschel in the studio

by Tim Pfaff

Harmonia Mundi has released a CD of Beethoven songs that inadvertently salutes the end of Europe's summer arts season, when and where it really happens. In late August, Harmonia Mundi's soloist, baritone Dietrich Henschel, sang a Schubert recital in London that floored even the festivaled-out critics, and by several accounts left both singer and audience in tears.

An argument could be made that a real professional would not weep at the end of his own recital, but Henschel was singing a program of Schubert's songs about death, followed by *Schwanengesang*, so if ever there was a right time, this was it. The [UK] *Guardian's* Tim Ashley concluded, simply, "One of the greatest things I've ever heard in my life."

This new studio recital, with Henschel superbly partnered by Michael Schäfer (who also offers three superbly played, rare Beethoven piano solos in the bargain), makes such reports plausible and then some. Their connection with the material — still one of the most neglected corners of the recital repertoire — is complete, personal, individual, and natural without once seeming exaggerated. In short, this is music-making of the highest order. Critics are currently reassessing Beethoven's "late period," when it transcended known forms, and the importance of the songs in that artistic transition. Call this CD Exhibit A.

Unaccountably, some review-

ers of Henschel praise him for how much he can do with such little voice. This CD may bury that idea. It supplies irrefutable evidence that, at the level of sheer sonic luster, Henschel's voice is the equal of any of today's other baritone recitalists. It may lack the suavity and tonal elegance of a Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau (to confine comparisons to baritones no longer active, one who also made a superb CD of Beethoven Lieder), but it augments its already involving sound with that "immediately recognizable vocal timber" that savvy record producer Walter Legge called "the *sine qua non* of a great career."

The CD's first four sung words, "Ob ein Gott sei?" ("Is there a God?"), leave no doubt that exceptional singing is in store. "Ob" is dead on the pitch but completely drained of tone, even more so on the repeat. While separated by cavernous silences, all four words have their own col-

ors, and each its place in a sharply-edged musical line. The effect is masterful. The song is "An die Hoffnung," Op. 94, one of the composer's most mature songs, written to a poem by Christoph August Tiedge that could not have been written in a post-Prozac age. Its plea for "Hoffnung" (hope) is as passionate as Leonore's in *Fidelio*, if, from an older, wiser composer, less sure. In the final "O Hoffnung," Henschel's tone, again blanched, is steeped in resignation.

## Croon river

The other extreme of Henschel's expressive range surfaces in the craftily built comedy, culminating in crooning buffoonery, of "There once was a king," the "Flea Song" from Goethe's *Faust*. Still, the majority of the songs are of great seriousness, and, not infrequently, patent spirituality and even religiosity. It's not every singer who could put over the Six



Ludwig van Beethoven  
Lieder  
Dietrich Henschel  
Michael Schäfer piano

Gellert Lieder, Op. 48, whose pietistic texts lost favor even during Beethoven's day, but Henschel lends them a spiritual earnestness that matches the composer's (who was just beginning to face the horror of his deafness). The third, "Vom Tode," emerges a deeply serious meditation on death, and the exhortation in the second strophe, to "Live as you will wish you had lived/Once you are dead," is both wrenching and uplifting in Henschel's reading.

Like Beethoven, Henschel is at his finest in the songs about romantic love, its dizzying heights and its vertiginous drops into anxieties of all kinds. It peaks in the concluding "Soliloquy," in which Henschel tears through the text — "I who with my fickle in-

clinations/Have been till now an enemy to love/And would gladly remain one./Ah! I believe I am in love." — at the fastest tempo at which he can still maintain diction. In a mere two-and-a-half minutes, Henschel unleashes an astonishing range of expressions: desperation, elation, yearning, bewilderment, and, finally, frenzy.

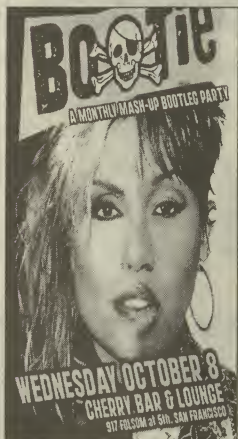
Naturally, the CD will be judged on the quality of the cycle "An die ferne Geliebte," Op. 98, where Henschel and Schäfer are simply, quietly astonishing. Despite their extravagant care with the score, nothing seems calculated or mannered, and the 11 minutes unfold with the inevitability, changeability and rightness of weather — here, the soul's. Henschel sings the repeated notes of the second song with startling particularity. Yet ultimately, what astonished most is the pair's freedom with the piece, following all its shifting feelings with trust and unquestioning involvement. ▼

## Double-crossed

◀ previous page

War II. He also spoke out often for gay rights and women's rights.

*Time on Two Crosses* brings together a wide array of Rustin's writings. Arranged both chronologically and thematically, these essays represent everything from Rustin's early arguments against Jim Crow laws and for nonviolent disobedience (he is credited with introducing King to Gandhi's philosophy) to his later writings on gay rights and his essays on the condition of black Africans. This is a diverse and invaluable collection of writing from one of the 20th-century's most important human rights champions. Perhaps it will help raise awareness and appreciation of Rustin's life and work for a new generation of activists. ▼



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Anna (center) sees something that astonishes her on Nino (right), while his same-sex buddy Angelo looks on.

## Mambo Italiano

◀ Arts cover

sents a view of immigrant life that is frozen in time. Angelo's parents have spent decades trapped in the social world of their small Italian village, resisting blending into the fabric of Montreal. Why should they give up Italian to speak French? As Gino puts it, "Nobody told us there was two Americas: the real one, the United States, and the fake one, Canada. Then to make matters even worse, there's two Canadas: the real one, Ontario, and the fake one, Quebec."

There are also two Angelos: the mischievous, curly-headed, passive-aggressive imp who fields telephone consumer complaints for a Montreal travel agency, during which he is "abused by rich

corporate executives, their assistants and their assistants' assistants," and the boyish man who plays hide the salami with Nino. If *Saturday Night Live* should ever decide to be funny again, they should call Luke Kirby. Like a young Bob Newhart, Kirby gives great telephone monologue. Just pray that somebody like Angelo doesn't answer when you need computer tech support.

### Active listening

The film hits its comic stride when Angelo, having been expelled from the "Italian village" and Nino's bed for his reckless honesty, discovers that the "gay village" has its own hidden hypocrisies. Attracted to the Gay Helpline by the personality of its coordinator, Peter (Ted Post), Angelo is advised to be an active listener who can "hear

[the callers'] pain."

Angelo, who says "talking and not listening is an Italian tradition," proceeds to treat some garden-variety cases — the suicidal teen, the perpetually unrequited lesbian, the hormonally challenged transsexual — like a therapeutic version of John Belushi's Samurai Delicatessen, hilariously repeating his caller's pleas until reaching, mantra-like, an all-purpose reply, "Yes, you've ruined your life." For all his fearsome honesty, Angelo is but an improved version of Maria and Gino.

*Mambo Italiano* can be faulted for its ethnic clichés and fun-house-color scheme. In one scene, production designer Patricia Christie has Angelo's shirt match the wallpaper: both are a vibrant orange. But lurking just under the

next page ▶

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## FILM

# Rules of play

'Cet Amour-Là' remembers Duras

by David Lamble

How long have we known each other?

"Since before forever."  
"I've known guys who rattled off my work by heart. They didn't stay long."

By the time we meet her in the summer of 1980, novelist/screenwriter Marguerite Duras has become a reclusive, hard-drinking old flirt. Every man but one has fled the coop. That one, little more than a boy, is standing naked in her bathroom. Their 16-year affair will spark a last burst of writing that many will consider her best: *The Lover*, *The Malady of Death*, *Yann Andrea Steiner*. The last novel evokes the name of the young man, whom she teases, telling him that he is but her last great character: "The name's mine. You're nothing. What will you do with it when I'm dead? The whole world will remember it. Yann Andrea Steiner: a Jew from Brittany. It's unforgettable."

*Cet Amour-Là* is the title of the memoir/novel that Yann Andrea wrote to recover from his grief when Duras died on March 3, 1996. It's also the title of Josée Dayan's film elegy to love between generations, to the tyranny of a love that transcends the death of the older partner. This love is quarrelsome and messy, a kind of love that in America can only be depicted as black comedy, a love that inspires the best work and haunts the luckiest lives.

Duras is evoked by Jeanne Moreau, who here seems determined to have us both remember and forget all she's meant to us onscreen — with Truffaut, *Jules and Jim*; Godard, *A Woman is a Woman*; Welles, *The Trial*; and Buñuel, *Diary of a Chambermaid*. The equally amazing Aymeric Demarigny is Yann Andrea, whose oval face, day-old stubble and mane of auburn hair are a constant reminder of the repressed passion of even the most passive boys. Demarigny unwittingly evokes a young Bud Cort. Oddly, I kept thinking not of the Cort of *Harold and Maude*, but the actor's later job tending to the last days of Groucho Marx.

## Sixteen candles

Moreau and Demarigny fuss, flirt and fight throughout the 95 minutes that are director Dayan's take on their 16 years. Neither actor undergoes artificial aging, so it's all the more shocking when our time with them is suddenly over. Moreau is a superb domina-



Jeanne Moreau as novelist/screenwriter Marguerite Duras, and Aymeric Demarigny as boytoy Yann Andrea

trix, whether downing a glass of red wine in a single gulp, showing off her Normandy beachtown as if she were its sole proprietor as well as curator of its literary memories ("Proust came here with his grandmother. Before the Grand Hotel of Cabourg. He was on the side facing the sea. I'd rather face the rear,") or giving a driving lesson, telling Yann he has to juggle the clutch and the stick-shift just so if he wants his life with her to go anywhere.

The film's greatest conceit is the power of an older woman to use the boy, rudely. Early in his stay, Duras kicks the sleeping Yann out of bed, throwing his suitcase out the window, knowing that he'll be back at her door, a properly whipped pup. While his body is lovingly objectified, our voyeurism is reserved for her will.

Duras, born to schoolteacher parents when Indochina was still a French colony, went on to write about life in the wake of war and colonialism. Her script for Alain Resnais' *Hiroshima Mon Amour* used a chance love affair between a French woman and a Japanese businessman to evoke all the past century's cross-cutting of passion and sorrow.

Yann, confused by the emotions she provokes, inquires at their first meeting, "Is it a let-down?"

She smiles. "No. It's life, always full of surprises." ▼

Opens Friday.

## Mambo Italiano

◀ previous page

surface is the notion that the film is the pilot for the sitcom of his family that frees Angelo, the writer and the man, to forgive them and be forgiven by them.

Much of queer cinema's most challenging fare (*Boys Don't Cry*, *L.I.E.*) confronts scary truths that can frighten the horses, both gay and hetero horses. *Mambo Italiano*, like our own *Big Fat Greek*

*Wedding*, is a date-night-friendly parable about the paradoxes concerning queer people and modern family life. Years after Quebec's Quiet Revolution, limiting the power of the Catholic Church, Angelo and family have their reconciliation inside a confession booth. Fearing to be seen exiting the booth, the family screws up its courage, only to confront a totally empty church. ▼

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# OUT & ABOUT

## Calendar

by Mark Mardon

### Circo Zero

The San Francisco International Arts Festival has shown excellent taste in booking Keith Hennessey and his performance troupe Circo Zero to perform "A Cabaret of Danger & Compassion" this Saturday and Sunday, September 20 and 21 at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. In line with Hennessey's bent for challenging the status quo in art and politics, the program aims high: to foster a new era of "Radical Trust in Strangers."

And how is this to come about? By showcasing amazing aerialists juggling the endless possibilities of danger, and demonstrating the strength of trust. Since Hennessey is a highly political animal as well as a master showman, expect some of the show to reflect the geo-political balancing and contortions now taking place on the world stage, where trust is in short supply.

Among the performers is aerialist Amanda Starr, a member of the New Old Time Chautauqua, a traveling-vaudeville/education troupe. She trained with Earth Circus, Velocity Circus, Camp Winnarainbow, and in Havana with the Cubano International Circus. She studied with some of the greats in the biz, including the Pickle Family Circus' Gypsy Snyder, and SF Circus School's Master Lu Yi and Xi Hong. She performed with the Flying Karamozov Brothers and Avner the Eccentric. In short, she knows about danger, and how to fly in the face of it.

Jade-blue Eclipse, who also studies acrobatics with Master Lu Yi, was born in Nagasaki, Japan and learned survival/performance skills in San Francisco's seedy strip joints, hip nightclubs, and alt-performance spaces, where instead of resorting to drugs and violence, she unleashes her inner masochism by startling patrons with bizarre physical feats.

Benn Mendoza began his performance career with a one-year stint as Tigger at Disneyland, then quickly moved on to apply his dancing/gymnastic skills on Royal Caribbean tours, in Broadway shows, and at future-tribal dances in L.A. Now in San Francisco he too trains at the SF Circus School. He has been found teaching at Head Over Heels, touring with Dream Circus at Lollapalooza, promoting clubs, performing at raves, and dancing with Jade at Bondage A Go Go.

Susan Voyticky, after getting her degree in Science, Technology and Society at Stanford, and mapping the human genome for a year, went to Paris to study movement theater, classical dance, Capoeira, and aerial arts at the Ecole Jacques Lecoq. She then created the musical group Strate with Ayel Lambert Ramos, and finally performed her works to great acclaim at festivals — all of which goes to show which skills and training (science vs. art) go farthest in today's world.

"Danger & Compassion" is the second in a series of Mongrel Circus Cabarets. Also on the evening's line-up are Loren Olds (vocalist); Gabriel Todd (vocalist); Neal Stewart (composer/DJ); The Starlings (aerial trapeze duo); Max Haverkamp (virtuoso European juggler); Olga Kosova (aerial acrobat); Emily Leap (trapeze poet); Seth Eyzek & Tom Sepe (the Zero Fools); and Ember (excessively cute contortionist).

For ticket price, times, and dates, see the "Out & About" Saturday listing. ▼

## Fig

### SF Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band @ Bethany United Methodist Church

The San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band, the Official Band of the City of San Francisco, perform "Between the Lines," music that is coded, subversive, or otherwise unexpected. Conducted by acclaimed Artistic Director Jadine Louie. Featuring the finale of *Symphony No. 5* and *Polka from The Golden Age* by Dmitri Shostakovich (whose compositions were banned by Stalin as offensive to the Soviet State), and *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot* (arr. Steve Rouse), an anthem of the underground railroad. Program also includes D.R. Holsinger's *Niles-dance*, J. Irish's *Millennium Fanfare*, and R. Cichy's *Divertimento for Winds and Percussion*. Free! 8:15pm. 1268 Sanchez St. (at Clipper). Info: 255-1355; [sflgb.org](mailto:sflgb.org)

### 'Queer Photography' @ The Center

Opening reception: The Harvey Milk Institute presents "Queer Photography Competition & Exhibition." Curated by Chloe Atkins, the exhibition showcases work by queer photographers and celebrates LGBT identity and community. Winners of the "2003 Queer Photography Competition," juried by Jim Van Buskirk of the James C. Hormel Gay and Lesbian Center at the SF Public Library, will have their work seen by thousands of people. Free (donations welcome). 6:30-9:30pm. Exhibit runs thru Nov. 1. The Center, 1800 Market St. (at Octavia). Info: 865-5633; [harveymilk.org](mailto:harveymilk.org)

### Alma Esperanza Cunningham @ Jon Sims Center

AlRspace artist-in-residence Alma Esperanza Cunningham presents a workshop production of "Doll," using male and female performers who take on the feminine persona. An evening of dance exploring and physically illustrating the struggle between the authentic self and the imposed inorganic definition of femininity. \$7-\$15 sliding (NOTAFLÖF). 8pm. 1519 Mission St. Tix/info: 554-0402; [jonsimsc-tr.org](mailto:jonsimsc-tr.org)

### MAX TGIF

#### @ Argent Hotel

Join the men of MAX and guests as they gather for "MAX TGIF Cocktails," a popular after-work social event, drawing members and guests to a friendly atmosphere where people are encouraged to meet new friends and make business contacts. MAX, the Men's Associated Exchange, is a membership-supported fraternal organization dedicated to providing a fun, open, diverse and welcoming community for gay men via social and philanthropic events. 6pm. 50 3rd St. Info: [maxonline.org](http://maxonline.org)

### Pandit Ganapati Bhat @ Ali Akbar College of Music, San Rafael

From Dharwad, the music city in north Karnataka, India, comes vocalist Pandit Ganapati Bhat, a young artiste who

serves as the torchbearer of an inspired tradition passed on to him by his renowned guru, the late Pt. Basavaraj Rajguru. Bhat's melodious yet powerful voice is impeccably suited for Hindustani classical music as well as light classical (dasa-vani) and other styles. With Ravindra Katoti on harmonium and Gopal Krishna Hegde on tabla. \$20 gen'l; \$15 AACM members/seniors/students. 7:30pm. 215 West End Ave., San Rafael. Info: 454-6264.

### Salia ni Seydou's 'Figninto' @ YBCA Theatre

The San Francisco International Arts Festival presents Salia ni Seydou, an outstanding dance ensemble from Burkina Faso, West Africa, in *Figninto*, a tale of friendship, exploring the challenge of sustaining communication in today's world: "What is the value of friendship if it cannot benefit from time: the time to love, to communicate, to reach one another?" \$18 & \$25. 8pm. Yerba Buena Center for the Arts/Theatre, 700 Howard St. (at 3rd St). Tix/info: 824-8844; [sfint-lartsfest.org](mailto:sfint-lartsfest.org)

### 'Performing Objects Stationed in the Sub World' @ The LAB

The LAB's 20th Anniversary Season presents Carla Harryman's "Performing Objects Stationed in the Sub World," created in collaboration with director Jim Cave, visual artist Amy Trachtenberg, and composer Erling Wolf (Queer). Featuring principal actors Ken Berry, Annie Kunjappu, Walonda J. Lewis, and Roham Shaikhani. The play portrays a world always under construction, situated between the sliding borders of city and suburb, and between commonplace existence and fantasy. Gatherings, encounters, collisions, and accidental meetings of words, objects and personae take place within the sub world. \$10-\$20 sliding. Thu-Sat thru Sept. 27. 8pm. 2948 16th St. (at Capp). Tix/info: 864-8855; [www.thelab.org](http://www.thelab.org)

## Sat

### Keith Hennessey/Circo Zero @ YBCA Forum

The San Francisco International Arts Festival presents Keith Hennessey and Circo Zero in "A Cabaret of Danger & Compassion," a thrilling, evocative spectacle of contemporary circus, performance and live music. See "Calendar" for details. \$20. 8pm. Also Sun, Sept. 21, 7pm. Yerba Buena Center for the Arts/Forum, 700 Howard St. (at 3rd St). Tix/info: 978-2787; [YerbaBuenaArts.org](http://YerbaBuenaArts.org)

### SF Hiking Club @ Redwood Park

Join other outdoors lovers for a Redwood Park Hike. Enjoy great views and shady redwood forests. It's a leisurely-moderate 9-mile hike with a 1,000-ft. elevation gain. Meet 9:15am at the foot of the Rockridge BART station escalator. Info: 487-6410; [www.sfhiking.com](http://www.sfhiking.com)

### Grupo Socio-Cultural Hispano

Potluck/get-together for all gay men in the Bay Area, regardless of their Spanish-speaking ability. For details, call 821-4670.

### 'Pine Street Sidewalk Sale' for AEF

Come to the fabulous 16th annual "Pine Street Sidewalk Sale" to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund. Items up for grabs include antiques, art, books, clothing, electronics, housewares, jewelry, music, plants, and furniture. Great bargains, entertainment, food & beverages. 10am-5:30pm. Corner of Pine & Leavenworth streets. To donate items for the sale, call David Slocombe at 775-9145.

### Remember Shakti @ Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley

Jazz guitarist John McLaughlin, tabla virtuoso Zakir Hussain, mandolin player U. Shrinivas and percussionist V. Selvaganesh come together as Remember Shakti, performing one night only. The quartet revisits the hybrid rhythms that made music history in the 1970s, a period when McLaughlin and Hussain's acoustic ensemble Shakti was among the first to fuse the traditions of jazz and Indian classical music. \$26, \$38 & \$56. 8pm. Zellerbach Hall, Bancroft Way at Telegraph, U.C. Berkeley campus. Tix: 510-642-9988; [www.calperfs.berkeley.edu](http://www.calperfs.berkeley.edu)

## Syn

### 'Lesbigay Sports Day' @ Angel Island

Team SF and SF FrontRunners present the 22nd Annual Angel Island Lesbigay Sports Day. Join this annual celebra-

Jade-blue Eclipse performs contortions and other wonders with Keith Hennessey's Circo Zero at Yerba Buena Center. See Saturday.

tion of LGBT sports at East Garrison on Angel Island, the state park in the middle of SF Bay. Bring sports equipment for running, bicycling, volleyball, softball, football, frisbee, hiking, swimming or any other activity of your choice. Prefer a non-competitive sport? Join in the New Games. Potluck items: If last name begins with: A-F bring salad; G-S bring main course; N-S bring dessert; T-Z bring beverages. Ferry cost: \$12 round trip. Times: 8:30am chartered ferry; 9:45am & 11:30am others. Meet at Pier 41 in S.F. (Blue & Gold Fleet). Return: 3pm or 4:40pm. Ferries are also available from other Bay Area ports, like Tiburon and Oakland. Info: 415-776-3442; [sfironrunners.org](mailto:sfironrunners.org); [teamsf.org](http://teamsf.org)

Lyon-Martin bar-be-que @ The Presidio Celebrate the Golden Anniversary Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon at The Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services 3rd Annual Bar-be-que by the Bay which takes place at The Log Cabin in the Presidio of SF (Building 1299). Lyon-Martin is proud to honor Del and

Phyllis for their 50-plus years of love, commitment to each other, and devoted activism for lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgender people everywhere. As founders of the modern lesbian civil rights movement, Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon were instrumental in founding the first national organization for lesbians in the U.S., The Daughters of Bilitis. Honorees: Warrior Barbar Brenner (Breast Cancer Action), and Visionary Suzanne L. Dibble, RN, DNS (Lesbian Health Research Center). \$65-\$10,000. 2-6pm. Tix: Poulos Brothers, 677-8688/info: Special Events office, 561-5444

### MAX Hikes @ The Bootjack Loop

Hike with the men of MAX and friends in Marin County on Bootjack Trail. "Few hike provide glimpses of such a dynamic, diverse, and delightful habitat as the Bootjack Loop. The trail crosses a meadow, oak woodlands, and some hilly grasslands, then submerges deep into a redwood forest and climbs back out, in the space of 6.2 miles. It entails a steady downgrade, so you face a huff-puffer climb on the return trip, but the redwoods make it worth the grunt." 10am. Info/sign-up: [maxonline.org](http://maxonline.org)

### MAX Bonfire @ Ocean Beach

Ignite your soul with the Men of MAX Bonfire at Ocean Beach. Host Champions have a sizzling, tempting bonfire and weenie roast, topped off with Smores. Bring your Bongo, guitars and other instruments. A fire-baton twirler will amaze you! Bring something to burn like a photo of your ex, a credit-card bill, a parking ticket... Soft drinks, hot dogs, Smores provided. \$8 members; \$11 guests. Info (time/place, etc.) [maxonline.org](http://maxonline.org)

### James L. Smith @ 'Hubbub'

"Hubbub," hosted by Larry-bob, presents Poet, DJ, Infinite Soul James L. Smith, a San Francisco citizen since 1972, reads from his voluminous collection of very personal, at times bleak, at times soaringly optimistic works of poetry and prose. As one of the Bay Area's finest soul/R&B deejays and a fixture in the queer literary/arts scene, Smith is a leading exponent of the new generation of Black queer artists defying comfortable stereotypes and daring to be authentic. His poetry has appeared in many publications, most notably *The Road Before Us: 100 Gay Black Poets, and Sojourner: Black Gay Voices in the Age of AIDS*. Open mike follows. Signup at 2:30pm; featured reading at 3pm. \$3 (NOTAFLÖF). Hyena Playhouse, 2390 Mission St. (at 20th St.), Suite 304 (elevator accessible). Info: 541-5610.



The great queer rock band ing preview their "Stagger & Belligerence" at the Eagle Tavern. See Thursday.



### GAPA Mayoral Candidates Forum @ Women's Bldg.

The Gay Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA) hosts a mayoral candidates forum with confirmed attendees including SF Supervisors Matt Gonzalez and Tom Ammiano; Treasurer Susan Leal; Former Chief of Police Tony Ribera; and Former Supervisor Angela Alioto. The event offers them an opportunity to present platforms on key issues affecting the gay and Asian/Pacific Islander communities. Not a debate session. This moderated forum will consist of 3-minute opening statements from each candidate, followed by Q&A. The GAPA forum vote will serve as a formal recommendation to the GAPA Board of Directors as part of an official political endorsement. Free. 4-4:30pm informal reception; 4:30-6pm moderated forum. Aldre Lorde Room, Women's Bldg., 3543 18th St. Info: [www.gapa.org](http://www.gapa.org)



Og the Leprechaun (Peter Sroka) and Finian (Michael Patrick Gaffney) fight over the pot of gold in 42nd St. Moon's 'Finian's Rainbow' at the Alcazar Theatre. See Wednesday.

## Mon 22

### Andrei Codrescu @ Moe's Books, Berkeley

Small Press Distribution presents World Heavyweight Champion Poet Andrei Codrescu, the celebrated "All Things Considered" NPR commentator, who stages his poetic comeback with it was today, his first new collection in nearly a decade. With great passion and playfulness disguised in an audacious, world-weary voice, Codrescu examines the state of the world — its politics, media, tragedies, obsessions, debaucheries, and the great affairs that make it all worthwhile. Free. 7:30pm. 2476 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. Info: 510-849-2087.

### Q-Sangha's 'Mother of Compassion' @ MCC-SF

Q-Sangha presents "Mother of Compassion: A Buddhist Celebration of the Divine Feminine on the Eve of the Autumn Equinox." Planning for an attendance of 200 persons, Q-Sangha (the Buddhist ministry of MCC-SF) will host a celebration of the Bodhisattva "Kwan Yin" (also known as "Avalokitesvara"), the Mother of Compassion. Many modern Buddhists believe that both Mary and Jesus are twin incarnations of Kwan Yin, who is said to be

truly transgender. She takes on many forms throughout space and time for the sake of all beings who suffer. Celebrate Her great compassion on the "Eve" of Autumn Equinox with candles, flowers, music, dance, meditation, prayers, poetry and a beautiful blessing ceremony. We will celebrate with candles, flowers, music, dance, meditation, prayers, poetry and a beautiful blessing ceremony. \$10-\$20 donation (NO-TAFLOF). 150 Eureka St. (btwn 18th & 19th). Info: 865-2750; [QSanghaSF@aol.com](mailto:QSanghaSF@aol.com); [www.QSANGHA.org](http://www.QSANGHA.org)

## Tue 23

'Then They Came for Me...' @ NCTC New Conservatory Theatre Center's 2003-04 YouthAware Programs brings back for the third and last time its Holocaust Memorial production of *And Then They Came for Me* — Remembering the World of Anne Frank by James Still, directed by Andrew Nance. This multimedia play weaves taped interviews with Holocaust survivors Edmond Silverberg and Eva Schloss with live actors

recreating scenes from their lives as youngsters during World War II. After each performance, Eva Schloss will answer questions from the audience. \$7 youth (18 & under); \$10 adults; \$5 groups of 10 or more. Mon/Wed/Fri at 10:15am; Tue/Thu at 10:15 & 11:45am; Sat., Oct 4 at 8pm; Sun, Oct 5 at 2pm. NCTC, 25 Van Ness Ave. (near Market). Tix/info: 861-8972; [www.nctcsf.org](http://www.nctcsf.org)

## Wed 24

### 'Finian's Rainbow' @ Alcazar Theatre

Opening night: 42nd Street Moon's season of rarely performed musicals in concert continues with an unusual production of "Finian's Rainbow," performed with orchestra. Written in 1947 by Burton Lande and Yip Harburg, it's a flight-of-fancy tale of Irish immigrants (and a wayward Leprechaun) who invade the mythical Southern state of "Missitucky." Featuring such classic songs as "Old Devil Moon," "How Are Things in Glocca Mora?," "If This Isn't Love," and "When I'm Not Near the Girl I Love." Starring Michael Patrick Gaffney as Finian, Marsha Mercant as Finian's daughter, Sharon, and Peter Sroka as Og the Leprechaun. Directed by Bonnie Hellman; musical direction by Dave Dobrusky; choreography by Dottie Lester White. \$30-\$40. 8pm Wed, Thu, Fri; 3pm & 8pm Sat; 3pm sun. Thru Sept. 28. Tix/info: 978-2787; 42nd St. Moon.org

## Thu 25

### Laurie Toby Edison's 'Familiar Men' @ The Center

Opening reception: The Harvey Milk Institute presents an exhibition and publication celebration for *Familiar Men: A Book of Nudes* (Shifting Focus Press; \$25), featuring non-eroticized nude male portraits by Laurie Toby Edison, who collaborates with her models to create relaxed, comfortable portraits. By revealing men as they are — old and young, fat and thin, varied in race, class and ethnicity — Edison provides a new kind of permission for all men to accept themselves. At

the reception, Edison will speak about these portraits and the impact they have on body and self image. Free. 7pm. 1800 Market St. (at Octavia). Info: [candydarling.com](http://candydarling.com); [harvey-milk.org](http://harvey-milk.org)

### 'Cinemayaat' Arab Film Festival @ Castro Theatre

Opening night: "Cinemayaat," The Bay Area's 7th Annual Arab Film Festival, showcasing the style, narrative, and cinematography that is uniquely Arab. The Arab Film Festival offers realistic portrayals of Arabs from Arabs themselves, countering those based on either racism or stereotypes. This mindful collection of films is an attempt to dispel the negative imagery associated with the region and share the lives of people who are most affected by today's events. 5pm Reception and Book Signing with Dr. Jack Shaheen (open to the public); 6pm Presentation: "Arabs in the Media" by Dr. Jack Shaheen (free admission; open to the public). 8:30pm Screening: El-Kotbia ("The Bookstore"), 11pm: Opening Night Party. \$9 film; \$20 film & party. Castro Theatre, 429 Castro St. Info: [aff.org](http://aff.org); [castrotheatre.com](http://castrotheatre.com)

### ing @ Eagle Tavern

"Thursday Night Live" at the Eagle Tavern presents a pre-Folsom Street Fair party featuring the hot queer rock 'n' roll band "Ing" (Mark Smotroff, lead guitar/backup vocals; Sean Mylett, lead vocals/rhythm guitar; Ty Gerhardt, bass; Liam Hart, rhythm) fresh out with a new CD, *Stagger & Belligerance* (Heyday Records), a fresh rendering of this great band's timeless American roots rock. Also on the line-up: The Ex Boyfriends and I Think She's Tremendous. 398 12th St. Info: 626-0880; [sf.eagle.com](http://sf.eagle.com)

### 'Spankfest 2003' @ The Pendulum

Alley Catz (aka Infusion) present "Spankfest 2003" (7:30-10pm), a butch/femme social by SF Leather Dyke Diva 2003 Sh'Diva, SF Leather Dyke girl Lori, and Robe & T of the B/F Socials. Kinkfest, raffle & prizes on the outdoor smoking patio. Delectable edibles. Drink specials. DJs Eclat and Rua rock the dance floor with a mix of house, funk, and the best of 70s & 80s. No cover. 6pm-2am. 21 + w/D. 4146 18th St. (at Collingwood). Info: 863-4441.

### Raging Stallion Cast Party @ EROS

"Raging Stallion Studios Cast Party." Celebrate the release of Raging Stallion Studios film *A Porn Star is Born* starring Michael Soldier, Shane Rollins, Michael Brandon, and Jerk. Meet the stars in person, get autographs, and make dates. EROS Lounge, 2051 Market St. 7-10pm. Info: 255-4921; [steve@erossf.com](mailto:steve@erossf.com)

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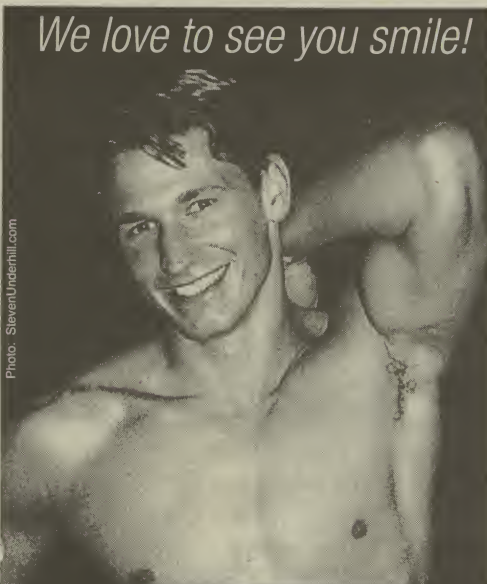
Send your calendar event listings to:

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Out & About  
Bay Area Reporter  
395 Ninth Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103

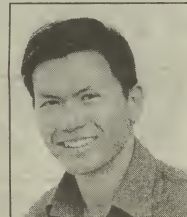
Deadline is the Friday before issue date.

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Join the Harvey Milk Institute at The Center in celebrating Laurie Toby Edison's *Familiar Men: A Book of Nudes*, a non-sexual look at men exposing their souls. See Thursday.





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Friday, September 19, 8:00PM-1:00AM  
Art Opening 9-8 in the gallery  
Studio 4, 314 14th St @ Folsom  
• Art Erotic Art Show / Sale exhibiting women's kinky art  
• ART OPENING party from 8-8PM. Ages 18-and-up welcome  
• DJ - Page Model, MC - Bubblinsugare  
• Delectable catered hors d'oeuvres  
• Cash bar, and a non-alcoholic bar in the gallery  
• Schmoozing & cruising amongst the hottest women in the world  
Sept 22 - Dec 2 Art Show Sale at Studio 2 gallery, 11-7PM  
Saturday, Sept. 27: Women's play party sponsored by the Society  
Sunday, Sept. 28: Folsom Street Fair - visit us in the Exiles' room  
FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO VOLUNTEER, CONTACT: EXILES AT MEETOREST@THEEXILES.ORG, OR VISIT OUR WEB SITE: WWW.THEEXILES.ORG

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These five men will vie for the Mr. SF Leather 2004 title next Saturday night, September 27. From left: Julian Marshburn (Mr. Daddy's Lea.) Darryl Jenson (Mr. Hayes Valley Leather), Keith Folger (Mama's Leather Man), Damon Holsum (Mr. Powerhouse Leather) and Stafford Hemmer (representing the SF Men of Discipline).

## Leather Pride is here!

### Half a million revelers are expected

by Mister Marcus

The annual paeon to leather kicks off this weekend with the Leather Pride Walk taking place on Sunday, September 21. The two-mile hike from Daddy's in the Castro to the SoMa leather zone commences around 1300 just after the raising of the 30' x 60' Leather Pride Flag in Harvey Milk Plaza.

Entertainers will serenade the marchers as they wind their way down Market Street and into the Leather Zones of Folsom and Harrison Streets. Pledges are being sent in already and immediately following the arrival of the marchers at the Eagle Tavern, at least a half dozen men on the 2004 Bare Chest Calendar will be auctioned off for dinner dates by

Lenny Broberg from 1500-1800 with a beer/soda bust and other surprises.

Leather people are already arriving for the biggest leather event in the world, and more than 500,000 people are expected to converge on Folsom Street on Sunday, September 28 for the seven-block-long plethora of vendor booths, info booths, merchandise of every stripe (but mostly leather), and some of the freakiest sights you'll ever witness.

Current leather titleholders from around the world will be presented on the 12th Street Stage at 1315 Street Stage at 1:15 p.m., with International Mr. Leather John Pandal and Ms. World Leather Goddess Lakshmi doing the honors. Following the introductions, a birthday celebration ceremony will take place, complete with

cake, the singing of Happy Birthday, and a "surprise" visit. This will be a photo opportunity for all media people, so don't miss it!

In addition, a "Leather Lounge" will be provided for \$50 (advance ticket purchase), offering soft drinks, shade, and a coat/bag check facility. The admission is \$60 that same day, unless you buy the package in advance.

Between the Leather Walk on Sunday, September 21 and the Folsom Street Fair on Sunday, September 28, hundreds of events will take place all over the city, and the "Fringe" weekend event in San Jose.

Folsom Fair fans already are in our midst. Be kind, friendly and helpful to them all. It should be a grand and glorious 20th anniversary of the world's biggest leather gathering — and aren't you glad you locals are the hosts?

Be sure to check the Folsom Street Fair website: [www.folsom-streetfair.com](http://www.folsom-streetfair.com)  
next page ►

## EVENTURES IN LEATHER

### Thursday, September 18

Mr. Powerhouse Damon Holsum hosts "Pure Porn," featuring a gang of "porn actors" from Raging Stallion to benefit Bay Positives. From about 2000 to 2300.

### Weekend, September 19-21

Spotlight on Kansas City, Missouri for the Mr. Dixie Belle Leather contest and Heartland of America Leather boy contests. Zack Marquardt steps aside as Mr. Dixie Belle Leather and "Fat Boy" Chuck gives it up to a successor. All sorts of events are planned for a great weekend in the "Show Me" State. I can't wait to see what they'll show me. I'll be judging so you'll be the first to get the results here!

In Dallas, Texas, it's the 2004 Dallas Leather Sir/boy competition at the Holiday Inn Select. Winners advance to the next level for that region.

### Friday, September 19

The Exiles of SF present "Etiquette, Protocol and Ritual" by Lady Hilary at the Women's Building, Doors 1930, show at 2000.

Leather and Uniform Night at Renegades in San Jose from 2100 to closing.

Sacramento Valley Leather Men celebrate their 6th anniversary tonight from 2000-2300 at the Bolt Bar with leather/uniform/fetish wear encour-

aged. For info, surf to [www.svlclub.org](http://www.svlclub.org).

### Sunday, September 21

Sign up at Daddy's (if you haven't already) for Leather Walk 2003 beginning at 10:30 this morning; raising of the giant Leather Pride Flag in Harvey Milk Plaza around 11:30; pit stops, entertainment along the way. M info at [www.leather-walk2003.com](http://www.leather-walk2003.com).

At the Eagle Tavern, at the beer/soda bust today from 1500 to 1800, almost half a dozen 2004 Bare Chest Calendar men will be auctioned off for dinner dates and other goodies. Lenny Broberg does the auctioning honors. This always hilarious afternoon will benefit AEF & PRC. Be there!

### Monday, September 22

The Powerhouse celebrates its 6th Anniversary tonight with surprises galore as only Ross Dierking can dream up. The action begins around 2100 and continues until closing. Don't miss this one!

### Thursday, September 25

Meet IML 2003 John Pandal up close and personal at Daddy's tonight from 2000-2300, when he'll be signing autographed photos for you to benefit Magnet Health Service. Drag entertainment galore and you can be photographed with Mr. Pandal. Hosted by Mike Dumont.



## POLKSTRASSE

# The sporting life

by Sweet Lips

The fabulous Club Rendez-Vous 49ers parties are not to be missed, and the next one is this Sunday, September 21, when the home team squares off against Cleveland at 1:15 p.m. Come early to get a good seat. It's always fun, with prizes and good vibes all around. Watch grown men pat each other on the rear! The club is at 1312 Polk St. at Bush, so drop on in!

Of course, Yours Truly and David Ryan work the crowd at Club R-V every Sat., Mon. and Tue. from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., so come in and join us for a cocktail!

Also on Sept. 21, the Renegades gay softball team will be holding a fundraiser at the Cinch Saloon, at 1723 Polk St. near Clay. Come support the players so they can get some balls to play with! Did you know the Cinch won

their first Community Softball league way back in 1981? That was when Jack "Irene" McGowan of the Renegades, who led the Cinch team from 1978-81, took the team to victory.

On the royalty front, longtime royal court followers will be glad to know I recently had a great time with Emperor I, Kim Chidester of Portland, who now lives in Salt Lake City and is looking great, but his buddy Harland was not with him.

And speaking of royalty, our beloved China Silk will be having her 27th birthday party on Saturday, October 4, at Marlena's, starting with appetizers at 8 p.m. followed by a star-studded show at 9 p.m., hosted by Emperor 28 John Carillo and Princess Kitty Glamour. Proceeds benefit the A.R.C. and the

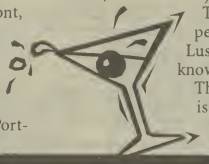
Leather Flag Fund. China looks forward to seeing you all there!

On the club scene, Vertigo (formerly Reflections) is now open, and they have done a great

job of remodeling. They are the same people who own the Lush Lounge, so you know it's great!

The 'N Touch Saloon is still hopping on Polk Street, with a fun crowd drawing many attractive young Asian men.

Over in the Castro, a great place to eat, Orphan Andy's, is celebrating their 25th anniversary! My, how time flies! Can you believe it? It seems like only yesterday they were the new kids on the block, and there they still are, open 24 hours a day for your dining and late-night cruising pleasure! ▼



**Cocktail Hour**

## Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

streetfair.com.

### What? No fundraising? Begone!

Should judges at contests take the word of the contestant when he expresses an extreme desire to win whatever the title he is seeking? Of course! But the *Bare Chest Calendar 2004* committee is not amused that two of their winners have opted to resign from the fundraising effort imposed on winners. They should (honorably) return the \$250 vests they earned as prizes!

### Leather people love art, too!

There are hundreds of events taking place during Leather Pride Week in San Francisco, one notably being the SF Leather Daddies 8th Annual Art Auction on Friday, September 26 at the Eagle Tavern at 2100. It's a benefit for Visual Aid. Among the many items offered up for your bidding is a MUNI glass bowl created by artists at the City Dump with glass from a MUNI bus shelter.

### Sexy degree

Former leather titleholder Lady Hilary Dwyer, a senior at Mills College in Oakland, is completing an undergraduate thesis in culture of the Master/slave communities and she needs to interview those of you who are into such a relationship. Contact her: surveys@att.net.

### Changing hands

The world-famous CellBlock in Chicago has been sold and all sorts of wild speculations about the fate of the bar are out there, but owner Roger Hickey assures me nothing will change. Likewise, the long-standing Male Hide Leathers has folded due to reasons that are best left unsaid. Looks like Mephisto Leathers will take up the slack.

### Sir/boy goes on without New England

All the regional contests for International Leather Sir/boy are completed except for the New England region. Regional producer Bob "Puppy" Pedder advises me that the area is in total disarray with no cooperation from the bars, so New England will not be represented at the finals in St. Petersburg, Florida the weekend of



The last regional Leather Sir/boy contest for this year's competition was held in Jacksonville, Florida two weekends ago, and Paul Thranhardt emerged as Florida Leather Sir, which Boy Michael Hayley (kneeling) is Florida Leather boy. They advance to the finals in St. Petersburg, Florida the weekend of October 9-12.

October 9-12.

The last regional contest was the Florida Leather Sir/boy competition held in Jacksonville two weekends ago. The new regional producers Lou Molnar and Shannon Short are delighted with the support and outcome. The Florida Leather Sir is Paul Thranhardt and Florida Leather boy is Boy Michael Hayley.

The judges for the finals have been named and Tom Kiple, owner of the Sun Coast Resort assures me that his staff is geared up for the invasion of leather folk in

October. Got your tickets yet?

That's how the week is shaping up. I'll see you at most of the events, and especially at the Mr. San Francisco Leather 2004 contest on Saturday, September 27 at the Ramada Plaza Hotel. Tickets are on sale and going fast. Don't be left out!

Oh, there's more but you can read all about it next week. In the meantime, keep living, keep laughing, keep loving and keep reading leather news from around the world at [www.L LeatherPage.com](http://www.L LeatherPage.com). ▼

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## PARTING GLANCES

### I Want You To Be My Baby...

We met outside Badlands on Saturday. We kissed and fireworks went off in my heart. I didn't believe in love at first sight until I met you. Talk to me stooiid. Angel. **72714**

**Cute Oakland Koshier Guy @ Fair**  
 The tension at the dessert competition was caused by your adorable self-I came in 2nd @ the fair, though I'd like to come in 1st with you! **72782**

**File's Resort Aug 15, 16. Fr/Sa**  
 We smiled and looked at each other a lot poolside. You wore long blue jeans; me, 15-20 yrs older, short brn hair. We talked about the puppy. I want to know you! **72795**

**Love The Lip Ring, Tattoos.**  
 Sunday afternoon at the #5 stop. You, a vision in a powder blue muscle shirt. Me, a sight with books and a cane. You made my day. Can we talk? **72796**

**Big Masc. Sam, & Fine Muscle Steve...**  
 I'm your "Gardner". I think you both are so fucking sizzling Hot! It would be nice to one day take a break and hang out in the hot tub...Naked!! Is it possible? Signed Gardner, in Hilly Oakland USA **72806**

**"Missed Connections"**  
 Rick, the cock worshiper in Alameda. I live near the lake. We got together and parted. You came and picked me up. Didn't write correct phone #. Let's do it again. **72811**

**Guerneville 8/31**  
 You with dark beard. We should have talked. I'm sorry I left. The Rainbow. **72812**

## SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

**"Seeking Romance"**  
 GJM 50 near Lake Merritt, seeking drinking, hanging out buddy. Like films, stage, food, baseball, drinking, etc. Not a sex ad. Age, size, race, looks unimportant. Urgently need male companionship. **72715**

**Where've All The Cowboys Gone!**  
 GJM 39/5'10". Healthy HIV+! ISO slender GM for ltr. Must be honest, true, and need a lot of love. Cause I have a lot to give to the right guy! **72716**

**Good Looking GWM 36**  
 GWM CMT looking for Latino or Asian for ltr. I am HIV- disease free. I enjoy movies, the beach dancing, holding hands, let's talk. **72717**

**"Males"**  
 Latinos, Asians, Middle Eastern, mixed race a plus, 18-30, HIV-, good teeth, slim or muscle bound, nice swollen nipples, nice round butt, GJM, 52, 208, ch 50" HIV-, goodlooking. **72718**

**"Models"**  
 I design mens under garments, need someone who can understand my work. Do you have the body and mind I need? 18-30, Latino, Asians, mixed race, muscle bound. **72719**

**Brown Sugar Latin Guy 36 Yrs.**  
 Nice Latin boy 36 yrs old 5'8", 155 masculine nice slim muscular body. Versatile. You- Latin or White versatile sex unimportant. Under 160lbs. No drugs. For relationship call. **72720**

**"Light Skinned"**  
 Young attractive or goodlooking 18-30 Latino's, Blacks, Asians, and Whites mixed race. HIV-, clean hygiene, good teeth, no clowns. Slim or muscular, swollen nipples, round butt, no fats. **72783**

**Dirtyoldman Needs Someone Bad!**  
 Are you bad??? Healthy, happy G.W.Sr. masc. top ISO W. masc. submissive bottom for friendship+sex, companionship+sex, love+sex? **727816**

**White Man Wanted For Lover**  
 White man 50 5'11", 197lbs seeking White man 40-60 for relationship love to cuddle and kiss. **72784**

**\*Top Sks Bottom\***  
 Solid, well hung, Silver Fox wants lovin all over- huggers+ kissers with bubble butt gets ride of lifetime. **72808**

**"9 1/2" To 10" And 7 1/2R."**  
 GJM, 52, 5'10", 208, 50"ch, HIV-, brn eyes long black hair, aggressive. You: 18-30 slim or muscled, any race, Latinos, HIV-, clean hygiene, round butt, and big swollen nipples. **72786**

**"ISO You!"**  
 GJM 42 masculine, attractive, enjoys working out movies, outdoor activities seeks GJM 35-55 who shares the same interest... Antioch. **72797**

**"18 To 25"**  
 Latinos, Asians, light skinned Blacks, mixed race, HIV-, clean hygiene, round butt, swollen nipples is a plus, safe sex, good teeth, smooth body, good sucker, kisser, muscle bound or slim. **72785**

**Looking For That Special Asian Man**  
 GJM, late forties, attractive & healthy, medium build with moustache seeks similar quiet, sensitive, very romantic minded Asian man under 50 yrs for a lifetime of quiet dinners, Saturday morning walks on the beach, lots of kissing and great sex! I'm looking for a committed relationship and hope you are too. **72798**

**GBM Wanted For Relationship**  
 GJM 50, humorous, smart, honest, HIV negative seeks similar GBM 30-50 for companionship and long-term relationship. I'm 5'10", 175lbs, with many interests. **72799**

**Looking For One Great Man!**  
 GJM, top, ISO White or Latino bottom for dating and possible ltr. Me: 51, 6'3", 175 hairy chest. You: 35-50 height & weight proportionate, Oakland. **72807**

**SF Bear Seeks Amorous Pig Btm**  
 Husky, heavy, easy going W/M 50, HIV- ISO horny bottom 25-40, HIV- who loves to make love with his mouth for hours. Tits, pits, back, buns, balls, all. Esp like Latinos, Italians. **72813**

**Cute Skinny Asian Yrs Guy**  
 ISO bl/GJM, prof, clean, 35-45yo, good-looking, h/t w/prop. Serious only for ltr. Me: prof, loving, caring, affectionate. **72814**

**Santa Rosa Native**  
 SWM, 42, 5'10", 175#, red head, ex navy, mobile home owner. Enjoys tennis, chess, talk radio, & drumming. Seeks relationship. **72815**

**Older ISO Yngr. J.O. Buddy**  
 GJM 50's seeks younger GJM 18+ for friend, companion, jo buddy, to go places with, to talk to, spend time with, who likes affection, to cuddle, mutual jo, maybe more. **72817**

## SEEKING ADVENTURE

**"Adventure"**  
 GJM into heavy, intense j/o, d/t, c/b worship, oral, drinking/partying, your place. PM only. Age, size, race, looks should be unimportant to both of us. **72774**

**\*Shut-Up And Ride\***  
 WM 38, 5'10", 190lb. blond/blue muscular top wants good looking men and/or women to screw anytime. **72775**

**Seeking Senior Top 70 Or Older**  
 Novice submissive 60 needs hard face pounding with facial cum bath. Make me your on-call fuck face cum smeared slave always there when you're feeling horny. **72776**

**Blk Top Dominant Sks Btm Boy**  
 6'2" 225lb, 39yr old total masculine top HIV-, seeks total submissive btm to plow deep and hard. Fun! **72777**

**SWM 63yrs. 175lbs**  
 Seeking, SWM 50-65, must be clean & discreet MWM ok. **72778**

**"Kiss My Red Red Rose"**  
 Hot buzzcut 35 y/o Pacific Islander with beautiful round butt ISO Caucasians, Latinos, Greeks. Deep throat is my expertise. Get ready for a surprise of a lifetime. **72787**

**GJM Seeking Asian 55+**  
 Seeking Asian 55+ for play- j/o- bjs- does not have to reciprocate- watch- movies. GJM- young 60- will please you. **72788**

**Santa Rosa Native**  
 GJM, 42, 5'10", 170lbs. Ex-navy, mobile home owner. Enjoys chess, tennis, drumming and outdoors. Seeks relationship. **72801**

**Passionately Hungry Bottom**  
 39yo, HIV+ GJM 6'1", 175, brn, hzl seeking hot sensitive top, brn eyes 40-50yo. Let's hook up and take pleasure to a new level. Mutual cuddling, kissing lots of foreplay. **72789**

**Seeking Couple For Play**  
 Asian boy top seeking White or Asian male couple or combo for fun safe discreet play, oral, jerk off and more! **72790**

**Wild Freedom To Be Ourselves!**  
 Gdiking, eager GJM, 5'8", trim, masculine, suntanned, HIV-, seeks men into intimate sensual/safe sexual exploration. Included: piercings, tattoos, rituals, long hair, foot/nudity fetishes, roles, fantasies, j/o. Fun/friendship. **72800**

**Party Of Four**  
 Attractive White and Asian couple seeking similar for foursome or switching partners. We're smooth, trim, versatile, and love sex! **72802**

**Naked Man Needs A.M. Training**  
 Looking for stocky dom. fun top 40-50 who would like to walk in on a tall attr 40 yo bottom. I like being spanked, clothes pins, tit work, teach me to take it. Weekday mornings only. **72803**

**"Who Wears Short Shorts!"**  
 Seeking guys with "Great Legs" who love to wear shorts. I want to make love to your legs. Smooth and tan a plus. **72809**

**Respectable Senior Will...**  
 Entertain married gets with no strings sexual servicing to fulfill your needs, fantasies. In San Francisco. Days best. **72810**

**Hairy? Celtic?**  
 Total oral servicing for hirsute Irish, Scots, Welshman over 35 and over 5'9". No reciprocation. I host. **72818**

**Dominant, Endowed Black Gentleman, 49, 5'9", 180lbs, balding, moustache.**  
 Seeking submissive, mature Latino gentleman with dark skin, dark hair and moustache for good time. Phone required. Serious only please. **72819**

**TS 4 Black Men East Bay**  
 Black young men generous mature smooth pretty bottom nice titles, will give you head and let you take her pussy. Blond/White. **72820**

**Seeking Built Hairy Cocksucker**  
 Who's into hairy men, nip work, dick play, and 69ing as much as me. I'm poz, muscular, very hairy, 5'0", 5'11", 185, GJM. If good match, let's play often and become buddies. **72821**

Safe sex is hot sex! **SAFE**

## FETISHES

**"Stroking For Hours"**  
 Seeking masculine/average guy for heavy, intense j/o, dirty talk, cock worship. Drinking/partying buddy desired. Some oral OK. Your place, PM only. Not into toys, videos, groups, anal. Long partying scenes only. **72779**

**Dominant Leather Top**  
 Seeks in shape boy 18-30 for hot B&D. Top: 6'1", 160, 39 worked out, HIV-. East Bay. **72780**

**"Bondage Hobb"**  
 Homeless man available for bondage scenes, vanilla nice too! Big shoulders, full beard, hairy chest, hazel eyes, freckles, 13ee feet. Your place, my mat??? **72781**

**Erotic Bondage Tickling**  
 Uncle Tickler can make it slow and sensual or wild and playful! I will find where you are most sensitive. Wooden Bondage Bunk Bed! Smooth and Asian A+. **72791**

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 U.S. doctored & clean as a whistle and really turned on having my hot tongue & mouth all over your crotch & butt hole. **72792**

**Dominant Seniors**  
 WM, 6', 165lbs dk hr. I like to be dominated by gentle senior men- alone or in groups. Open to kink but no pain. S&M, va, gay scene. Husky/ heavyset a plus. **72793**

**Asian Master Wanted!**  
 GJM wants to submit & serve. If you like to play games of cop/criminal, master/slave, etc. Let me know what you expect of me. **72794**

**Boy Needs Stern Discipline**  
 Bottom boy, 5'10", 160lbs, b/btl, 37y.o. seeks dominant and strict discipline to provide punishment with cane, strap, whip, switches, etc. I am serious. Sex optional. **72804**

**Smart Masc W/M 45 Oral Expert**  
 Seeks to service W/M 24-55 hung oral tops, ex jocks, bus-man who crave attn between legs, armpits, foot body massage. Like sweaty guys after your workout, sucking you through your sweet jock pouch, hot role playing. Coach, dad-son, kick back on Monday nite football for regular service. **72822**

## COUPLES

**"At Last ....Real Sex!!!"**  
 Cleancut 38yo Asian, ISO heterosexual Caucasian couple who wants a third party to spice up sex life. Am STD Free, very curious and a willing participant. Let's have fun. **72805**


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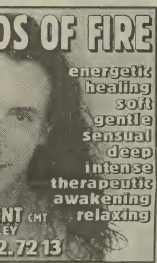
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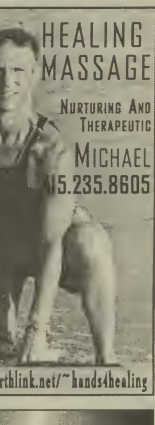
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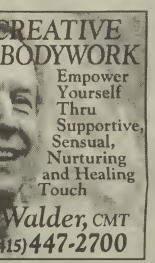
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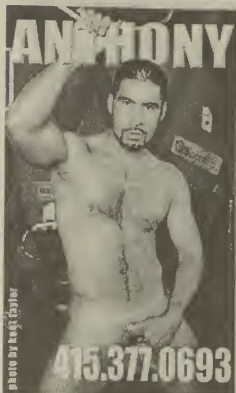
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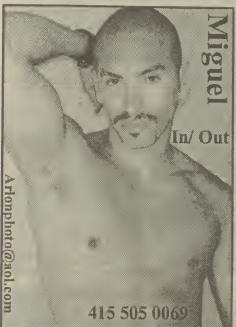


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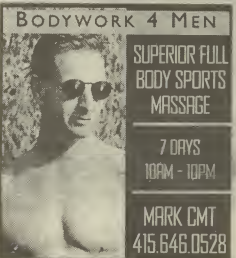
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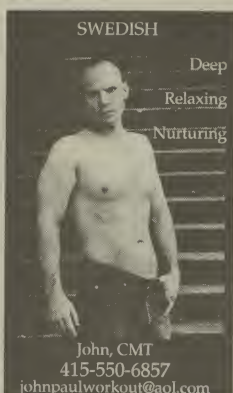
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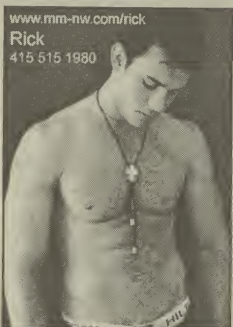
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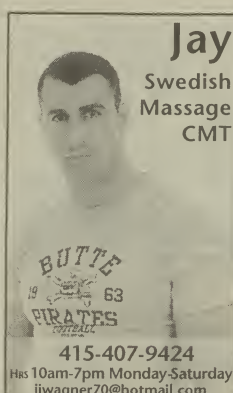
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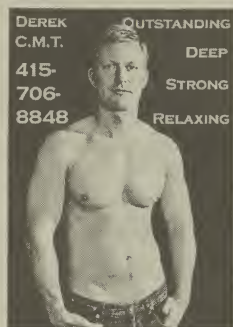
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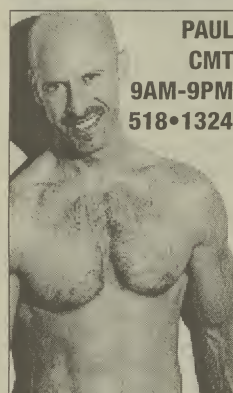
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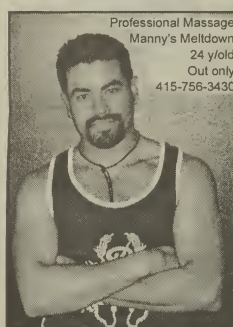
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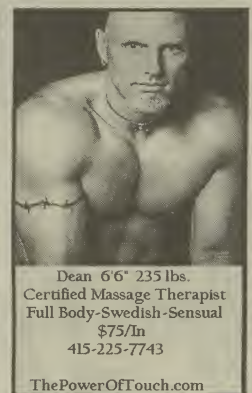
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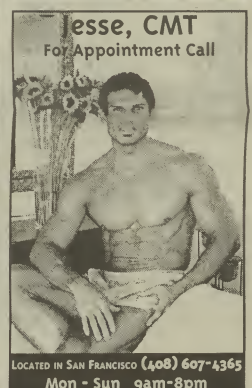
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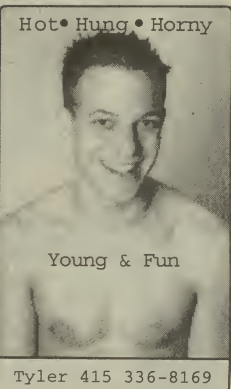
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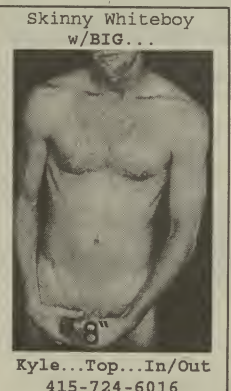
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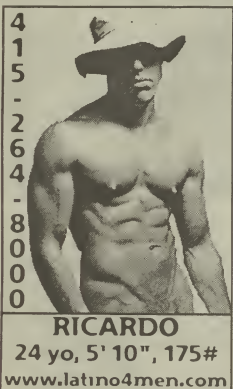
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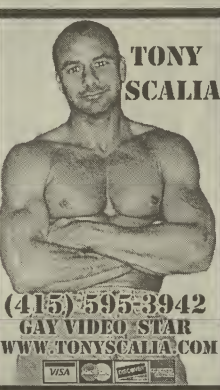
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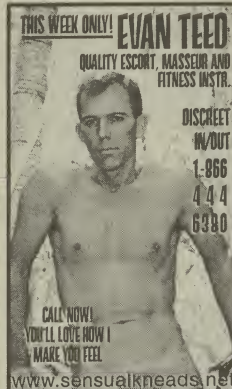
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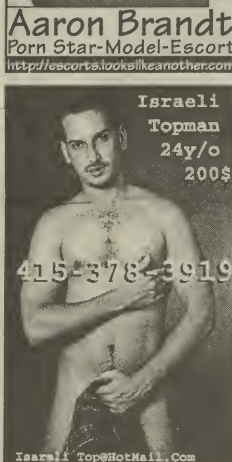
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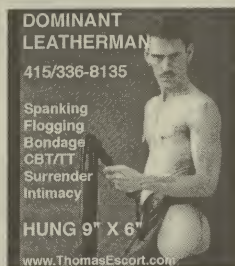
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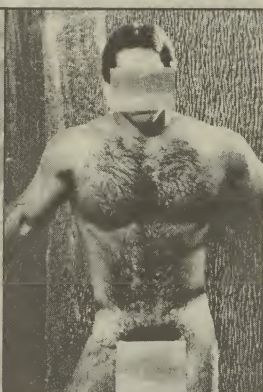
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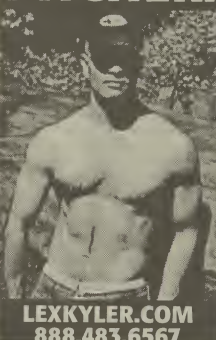
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In this new production of Rossini's comic classic, the barber Figaro works tirelessly to help a love-struck Count wrest a beautiful woman from her scheming guardian. With sparkling music and clever twists of plot, the characters disguise, hoodwink and confuse each other as the world around them becomes utterly chaotic.

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by Giuseppe Verdi

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